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## IDF disperses rioters in Hebron

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and LIAT COLLINS

Scores of Palestinians clashed with IDF troops on Shalila Street in the Hebron casbah yesterday. IDF troops used rubber bullets to disperse the rioters, who threw rocks, bottles and firebombs at security forces. Palestinian sources said three Palestinians were wounded. They were identified as Mohammed Duies, Raid Abu Rasia, and Mahmoud Abu Hina. Palestinian sources also said that Palestinian Police arrested some 10 rioters.

The IDF Spokesman said a group of Jewish women from Tel Rumeida who attempted to enter the Palestinian-controlled sector of Hebron were prevented from doing so by IDF soldiers.

The entire city of Hebron remains under the closure imposed following the murder of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anana late Thursday night in Tel Rumeida. The IDF Spokesman said

Rumeida in Hebron following the murder. He said the government also would discuss reinforcing the seven-family enclave at Tel Rumeida and replacing the caravans with proper buildings.

Netanyahu said this would improve security as well as demonstrate the permanence of the Jewish presence in the city.

"The Jewish community which has been in the City of our Forefathers for 4,000 years, where Abraham our patriarch is buried, will not be removed from there," he told Channel 2. "Therefore we are obliged to do everything possible, including constructing a permanent structure in Tel Rumeida."

He said that Israel would increase its security efforts in the city and unequivocally demand that the Palestinian Authority abide by its obligations.

"I have also conveyed a clear request to Arafat to find the murderer on the assumption he escaped to the Palestinian area, and we, of course, will do all we can on our side. We intend to preserve the Jewish community in Hebron and protect it. We are enraged by the despicable murder and we will simply use all the means at our disposal to protect our people," Netanyahu said, in an Israel Radio interview.

**Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anana buried, Page 2**

Palestinians cannot leave or enter the town and a curfew has been placed on Palestinian residents who live in H2, the area under Israeli control.

Security forces maintained a high profile in the city over the weekend, as a tense calm prevailed.

IDF officials said Palestinian security forces were investigating Ra'anana's murder, but Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat did not condemn it.

Israeli security forces believe that the terrorist attack was planned in advance and have not ruled out the possibility that more than one terrorist took part in it, before fleeing to H1, the sector of the city under Palestinian control.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cut short his vacation in the North and returned to Jerusalem following the attack and the recent events in Lebanon.

US President Bill Clinton expressed sorrow over Ra'anana's murder in a telephone conversation with Netanyahu on Friday.

Netanyahu replied that this is exactly the reason the government is insisting that the Palestinians abide by their commitments and on the need for firm action on everything involving security. Once this happens, a peace agreement could be reached quickly, Netanyahu said.

Netanyahu said over the weekend he had ordered a permanent structure be built at Tel

See **HEBRON**, Page 2

## US warns of more strikes

### Clinton blocks bin Laden's dealings with US companies

By LIAT COLLINS and news agencies

US President Bill Clinton launched a new offensive against America's arch-foe Osama bin Laden yesterday by blocking all financial transactions between US companies and the renegade Saudi millionaire accused of bombing two US embassies in Africa.

US officials called the move a limited first step toward disrupting the wealthy militant's far-flung financial empire.

Clinton warned Thursday's retaliatory cruise missile strikes at targets in Afghanistan and Sudan that he says are part of a guerrilla network organized by bin Laden might not be the last strike against terrorism.

"We must not allow sanctuary for terrorism - not for terrorists or for

**Clinton still trying to make peace with Hillary, Page 6**

their money," Clinton said in his weekly radio address.

In his own radio interview Friday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denied Israeli involvement in the US attacks in Afghanistan and Sudan.

"The Americans do not need our operative aid; they have all the necessary capability to act," Netanyahu said.

Asked about the possibility of revenge attacks, Netanyahu said, "We always have this fear, because we know the surroundings in which we live and we always continue our intelligence monitoring and acts to thwart [attacks]."

"But it is true that when a government, including a government of a superpower like the US, initiates action against terror - even if in this case it is a response to a murderous act - it can expect an exchange of blows or a strike back."

"This has to be taken into account, but it can in no way prevent action or else the terrorists would always win and will always hit us, the free societies. And if we never hit back, it is a certain recipe not for a temporary escalation of terror, but its increase to unbearable proportions."

Netanyahu spoke on Friday with Clinton and expressed support for the US action.

"Israel understands [the US] fight



Palestinian demonstrators burn a US flag in Nablus on Friday to protest against American retaliatory air strikes in Sudan and Afghanistan. Several hundred protesters chanted, 'America is the enemy of the Moslems.' (AP)

[against terror] as its own fight against international terror," Netanyahu told Clinton, according to a press statement.

Clinton apparently thanked Netanyahu for his support and for the work of the Israeli rescue team in Kenya.

Clinton yesterday signed an executive order directing the US Treasury to block deals between bin Laden and groups believed affiliated with him and any US national or company.

Two senior US officials said Clinton's order was unlikely to have an impact on bin Laden's fortune, estimated at \$300 million, because they do not believe most of his assets are subject to US jurisdiction. But they said the US would ask some of its allies to take similar action.

White House spokesman Mike McCurry said the US now has intelligence providing further proof that all six militant training camps hit by missiles in Afghanistan sustained "moderate to severe damage."

He said Washington does not know whether any leaders of bin Laden's network were casualties nor anything about bin Laden's "whereabouts or his condition."

Islamic radicals speaking for bin Laden insisted that, despite Clinton's assertion of "convincing" evidence of his role in the August 7 bombings in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, he had nothing to do with the car-bomb attacks that killed 263 people and injured more than 5,000 others.

But they said bin Laden has declared a war of revenge for the US missile strikes.

An Islamic militant close to bin Laden told Kuwait's *Al-Rai al-Aam* newspaper that the exiled dissident was not involved in the attacks against the US missions.

Ayman Zawahiri, an Islamic Jihad leader wanted by the Egyptian government, told the newspaper that the only casualties from Washington's punitive missile attacks were civilians.

While US allies, including Germany and Britain, leapt to the American president's support, Russian President Boris Yeltsin roundly condemned the US action.

Bin Laden has long vowed to wage jihad or holy war against US forces in Saudi Arabia, because of unconditional US support for Israel as well as US "occupation" of Islam's most sacred shrines in the Saudi cities of Mecca and Medina.

The official radio of Afghanistan's Taleban movement reported 21 people killed and 30 wounded by the US attack on targets near the town of Khost. Witnesses and security sources told visiting Pakistani reporters at least 11 people had been killed and 53 wounded.

In his Israel Radio interview, Netanyahu said the principles behind the US attack are also well known to Israel "and to a large extent, Israel is the one which leads the way in the fight against terror."

He said Israel understands that terrorists rely on a broad infrastructure. "It is definitely justified and acceptable that, when its citizens are attacked, a government can act not just against the terrorists themselves - but also against those who sent them and provided them the infrastructure to hurt us."

## Security expert: US attack throws terrorists 'off balance'

The US cruise missile strikes against Islamic fundamentalist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan are unlikely to have a boomerang effect, Israeli security experts said over the weekend. They also dismissed the rash of threats against Israeli and Jewish targets as rehearsed rhetoric.

"It is very possible that there may be more terrorist attacks, but it won't be a backlash from the

strike," said David Kimche, a former senior Mossad official and ex-director general of the Foreign Ministry.

"The terrorists had decided to attack American targets whether or not there was a strike," he said.

"What the attack did was put them off balance. They do fear possible further American attacks and the strike threat

makes them be more careful," Kimche said.

Israel has provided the US with a wealth of information on Saudi dissident millionaire Osama bin Laden's group and other terrorist

organizations since the bombings of the two US embassies in east Africa, security sources said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was evasive when asked whether Israel helped the United States select the targets in Thursday's air raids.

"The Americans do not need our operational help," Netanyahu said. "As for coordination, we are partners in the struggle ...

against those who blow up embassies, children, women, old people, innocent civilians."

One report, in the large-circulation German *Bild* newspaper, claimed that 30 Mossad and CIA agents had teamed up and were in Afghanistan last week to help laser guide the US missiles to targets. The report was unattributed.

See **EXPERT**, Page 2

## Hizbullah bombing kills two, prompts tough questions

By DAVID RUDGE

An IDF soldier and a civilian working for the army were killed late Thursday night when a roadside bomb exploded alongside their truck - just 150 meters from the Beaufort Castle outpost in the security zone.

The inquiry by Northern Command is concentrating on how Hizbullah gunmen managed to get so close to the position to plant the device that killed Staff-Sgt. Moshe Biton, 20, of Beit She'an and Amos Halfa, 29, of Kiryat Shmona.

Their deaths also raised questions about the use in the security

zone of unprotected civilian vehicles, such as the crane-carrying truck in which the two were travelling.

Biton was buried at the Beit She'an Military Cemetery on Friday afternoon. Hundreds of people attended the funeral, including former foreign minister David Levy.

"It is not possible to adapt to a situation in which our soldiers are falling every day," Levy said. "The government made a decision to leave Lebanon and the IDF should be ordered to find the way to bring an end to this awful and prolonged situation. It is impossible to live with a situation in which our settlements are being harmed or our soldiers are dying in Lebanon. Another way must be found."

President Ezer Weizman, meanwhile, paid a condolence visit to the family of Sgt. Ori Samuelov, 21, of Mevasseret

Zion, who was killed in a separate bomb attack in the security zone on Wednesday.

"A withdrawal from Lebanon is conditional on arrangements with the Syrians," Weizman told reporters, after leaving the family's home.

Halfa was laid to rest Friday in the cemetery of Moshav Alma, near Safed, where he had lived until a year ago when he married and moved to Kiryat Shmona. The couple have a three-month-old daughter.

The funeral was marked by an argument between the family and the IDF over whether it should be a military or civilian ceremony. It was decided that it would be partially military, because Halfa had worked for the IDF, although he was not in uniform.

The bombing occurred around 11:30 p.m. on Thursday when an IDF convoy left the Beaufort

Castle outpost to head back to Israel.

The vehicles in the convoy included an armor-protected Safari truck with soldiers aboard, other armored vehicles and the crane truck with Biton and Halfa aboard.

About 150 meters from the entrance to the position, a large explosive device was detonated alongside the truck, apparently after other vehicles had passed.

It is believed that the device was activated from a distance, possibly by Hizbullah gunmen who were observing the movement of the convoy with night-sights.

It is not clear whether they decided to hit the truck because it did not have protective armor and was therefore a "soft" target, or whether it was a random choice.

Civilians working for the army or performing contract jobs

enter and leave the zone on a fairly regular basis. In many cases, the vehicles they use do not have armor plating or other forms of protection.

Even so, Halfa was the first Israeli civilian to be killed in the zone for many years. Halfa had been working on repairing a water tank at the Beaufort Castle position and was returning home, with Biton alongside him in the truck as his military escort.

The steep winding road leading to and from the Beaufort Castle stronghold has been the scene of numerous attacks in the past, including Sagger anti-tank missile fire at convoys.

Reinforced concrete walls have been erected at strategic sites along the route to try and minimize the dangers posed by the missiles.

See **HIZBULLAH**, Page 2

## WWII bomb found in Daliat al-Carmel

An unexploded 250 kg aerial bomb left over from World War II was uncovered yesterday in a pile of earth being used to build a house in Daliat al-Carmel.

The police bomb squad was called to deal with it and was assisted by an IDF bomb disposal team. The site is adjacent to the village's community center.

Police investigators said a tractor bringing earth from a nearby field to the construction site had apparently scooped up the bomb, which had lain in the ground for decades.

The town's elders related yesterday that, during World War II, the Italian Air Force had bombed the Haifa area and this was probably the origin of the bomb. (Itim)

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## NEWS

in brief

### Awadallah home under PA siege

The home of escaped Hamas convict Imad Awadallah in El Bireh has been under siege from Palestinian Authority security forces, human rights activists said yesterday.

The Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group, quoting Awadallah's wife, Shifa'a, said all the residents in her home are under siege, with the children prevented from leaving for school. Food supplies for the family are inspected by agents of the PA Preventive Security Service.

Awadallah has been the subject of a PA and Israeli manhunt since he escaped his Jericho jail cell on August 15. Security sources said he might have crossed into Jordan. *Siege Rodan*

### Britain opposes Golan settlement expansion

The British government has urged Israel not to go ahead with plans to expand four settlements in the Golan. Implementation of the plan, a Foreign Office spokesman said in London on Friday, "would raise questions about Israel's commitment to the peace process." Britain was "disturbed" by reports of the plan which, it said, "would represent a significant setback to the peace negotiations."

"This plan would make it harder to renew talks on the Syrian track," said the spokesman, who reiterated Britain's view that "settlements in the occupied territories are illegal under international law." *Douglas Davis*

### Two arrested for counterfeiting shekels

Two men suspected of producing counterfeit NIS 50, NIS 100 and NIS 200 bills were placed under house arrest on Friday, after police found almost NIS 1 million worth of counterfeit bills in a Tel Aviv apartment. They also found machines for printing the bills.

The Palestinian Police detained Yoram Aberjil, 35, of Rishon LeZion, earlier this month on suspicion of counterfeiting and handed him over to the Israel Police.

Police arrested Yossi Ivgi, 23, of Holon, on Thursday and said that they expect to arrest others.

On Friday, the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court put both Aberjil and Ivgi under house arrest for one week. *Itim*

### Police shoot Palestinian driver in Jerusalem

Police shot and seriously wounded a Palestinian driver on Jerusalem's Rehov Herzog on Friday evening. Ahmed Shueiki, of the capital's Silwan neighborhood, responded to police-men's signals to pull over by recklessly speeding away. The policemen said they then shot at his car's wheels, but hit Shueiki instead.

The Justice Ministry's police investigation department is looking into the incident. Investigators have asked that witnesses contact the Jerusalem police's minority division or telephone 100. *Itim*

### US judge frees imprisoned Palestinian

A Manhattan federal judge on Friday released an imprisoned Palestinian man who has been on a hunger strike since February after refusing to testify before a grand jury investigating Hamas.

Since late June, Abdelhaleem Ashkar, 39, has been kept alive by forced feeding in the Westchester Medical Center in New York. US District Judge Denise Cote's order is under seal, but lawyers said that she had heard additional testimony showing that further imprisonment would have no effect in compelling Ashkar to testify. *Reuters*

### Police raid another Abramov party

Police stopped a party at the villa of construction company owner Emil Abramov in Kfar Shmaryahu yesterday afternoon after receiving complaints from neighbors about the noise.

Police sources said there were some 500 guests, some of whom paid to enter, and alcoholic drinks apparently were sold, in violation of the law.

Police raided a similar event at the Abramov house, which was described by police as an "acid party with trance music," several weeks ago. *Itim*

## HEBRON

Continued from Page 1

On Friday, Aharon Domb, director of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, called on the government to stop MK Meir Sheerit (Likud) from attending tomorrow's ceremony in Oslo celebrating the fifth anniversary of the Oslo accord.

"This is not the time to celebrate an agreement of bloodshed," he said.

The council scheduled an emergency meeting at Tel Rumeida today to discuss the recent terrorist attacks and measures to be taken. Council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar said that there have been a number of meetings between settlement leaders and IDF officers following the murder of two yeshiva students at Yitzhar and the attack at Tel Rumeida.

"The army realizes that the main objective and target of the terrorists are the Yeshiva communities and specific measures must be taken," she said.

Tayar said that council members also hope to meet with Netanyahu to discuss the recent events and steps to be taken to ensure the safety of all the Jewish communities in the territories.

While some residents have expressed reluctance to accept any new defensive measures proposed by the IDF, Tayar said

the council would do everything possible to ensure their implementation.

"We are not just talking about erecting fences around some communities, but demand that the IDF beef up their presence inside communities as well as outside," she said.

Acting Likud whip Ruby Rivlin is asking that a special Knesset session be convened during the recess to discuss the murder.

Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib add:

A senior Palestinian security official said yesterday that Jewish settlers will never be safe in Hebron.

Col. Ibril Rajoub, commander of the PA Preventive Security Apparatus, said the 400 Jews living in the Hebron constitute a permanent provocation for the close to 100,000 Arabs in the city.

Rajoub warned against Netanyahu's plan to build apartments in Tel Rumeida and replace the caravans with permanent housing. He did not discuss the investigation of the Ra'anana killing.

Meanwhile, Palestinian sources said the IDF curfew in Hebron has resulted in shortages of food, water and medicine.

PA Deputy Health Minister Munther Sharif said the curfew has resulted in the IDF preventing ambulances from reaching the sick, as well as supplies from reaching Palestinians.

# Thousands attend funeral of Hebron stabbing victim

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Thousands participated in the funeral of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anana, 63, who was buried in Jerusalem's Mount of Olives cemetery Friday afternoon.

Ra'anana was stabbed to death by a terrorist in the bedroom of his caravan at Tel Rumeida in Hebron, shortly before 11 o'clock on Thursday night.

His wife, Chaya, who was talking on the phone in another room inside the caravan, walked into the bedroom and saw the assailant attacking her husband. She ran to her husband's aid and the terrorist attempted to stab her before attacking her husband again. The attacker then threw a firebomb into the caravan and fled.

Ra'anana was the grandson of Israel's first chief rabbi, Avraham Yitzhak Kook. Nine years ago he moved with his wife from Jerusalem to the community of Hadar Beitar and six years ago they moved to Tel Rumeida. The couple have three married children.

The funeral started in Hebron and continued on to Jerusalem, stopping at the Mercaz Harav Yeshiva, founded by his grandfather, and continuing to the Mount of Olives.

At Tel Rumeida, his sons and local rabbis, including Kiryat Arba's Rabbi Dov Lior and Rabbi Eliezer Waldman, were joined by hundreds of Hebron and Kiryat Arba residents, who remembered Ra'anana as a scholar and a humble person.

Rabbi Moshe Levinger called on the settlers to discuss what to do in the wake of Ra'anana's murder and the murders earlier this month in Yitzhar.

"We have a very big problem," he said.

The eulogy by Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein, representing the government, was interrupted by calls for revenge, with some yelling "death to Arabs" and "traitor."

"It is easy to sign agreements but hard to live with them," some-



Mourners surround the body of Rabbi Shlomo Ra'anana in Hebron on Friday. Inset: Ra'anana.

one yelled out.

Other dignitaries attending included OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon, Judea and Samaria Police Chief Cmdr. Yitzhak Aharonovitch, MKs Hanan Porat (NRP), Benny Elon (Mokedet) and former MK Gula Cohen.

"He was such a devoted, unpretentious, sweet person," said Yehudit Tayar, spokeswoman for

the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

Others recalled that he was always seen surrounded by children, and usually carried several books under his arm.

"He was known as the grandfather of Tel Rumeida; everyone loved and respected him," one person said.

At Mercaz Harav, yeshiva head

Rabbi Avraham Shapira cried out, "I knew him for 50 years and I never heard him say a word of slander about anyone."

Other speakers included former chief rabbi Mordechai Eliash, Rehovot Chief Rabbi Shlomo Kook (a second cousin to the deceased), Haifa Chief Rabbi She'ar Yashuv Cohen and Education Minister Yitzhak Levy.

## Sudanese protesters call for US downfall

By ALISTAIR LYON

KHARTOUM (Reuters) - Thousands of Sudanese demonstrators waving Korans and shouting for the downfall of the US yesterday at a protest in central Khartoum against American air strikes on Sudan this week.

"Down, down USA, we won't be ruled by the CIA," the crowd of about 10,000 chanted in Martyr's Square, waving banners with anti-American slogans.

In a live interview with Qatari Al-Jazeera television, Sudanese President Omar Hassan Bashir said Sudan had the right to retaliate against Thursday's strikes on a pharmaceutical factory north of Khartoum city center.

"The United States has reserved the right to do whatever it takes to protect its nationals and installations. Likewise, we reserve the right to engage in similar actions within the confines of our power," Bashir said in the interview, which was monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation.

When asked to elaborate, Bashir said: "We reserve the right to respond at the appropriate time, God willing."

The attack, in which 10 people were injured, has sparked daily protests in Khartoum. Frenzied crowds burned and ripped up American flags, and waving women shouted for the death of the US.

"Moslem people will not bow to the criminal adulterer," one banner read, referring to US President Bill Clinton.

Hundreds of Sudanese mobbed the British Embassy in Khartoum yesterday pelting it with rocks. There were no casualties, an embassy employee said.

Britain has warned its citizens to postpone travel to Sudan.

Sudanese demonstrators on Friday attacked the US Embassy in Khartoum, tearing down the US flag and throwing chairs and rocks at the building. Washington withdrew its resident diplomats from the embassy in 1996, but diplomats visit.

Sudan said the El Shifa Pharmaceutical factory was not involved in producing components for chemical weapons nor was it linked to Osama bin Laden.

Standing in front of the wrecked plant yesterday, Sudan's Interior Minister Abdel Rahim Mohammed Hussein said Sudan welcomed investigators from the UN and the US Congress.

"This factory has nothing to do with Osama bin Laden," he said, adding that bin Laden had not been in Sudan when the plant, owned by a private businessman, opened last year.

"We are waiting for the UN secretary-general to send a team of experts so he can investigate thoroughly and see all the information about this factory," he said. "We are even asking the American Congress to send an investigation team to see what their president has done in this country."

US officials said cruise missiles launched from ships carried out the strikes. Sudan says American forces fired seven Tomahawk missiles, six of which hit the plant.

## Egypt militants threaten revenge

CAIRO (Reuters) - The largest Moslem militant group fighting to overthrow Egypt's government said in a statement yesterday that the United States would pay for its "barbaric" missile strikes on Sudan and Afghanistan this week.

A statement from the Gama'a al-Islamiya (Islamic Group), which claimed responsibility for the massacre of 58 tourists and four Egyptians in Egypt in 1997, was sent to Reuters.

"These raids which the American planes undertook under the pretense of hitting targets of Islamic holy warriors are barbaric and cowardly..." it said.

It said the United States's politically motivated killing of Moslems "would not come without a price. A million Moslems can use their bodies with the same destructive force as America uses its weapons."

"The time has come to end the policy of slaughtering Moslems and offering them as sacrifices on the steps of the White House," the statement added.

The group said UN sanctions against Libya and Iraq, destruction of Palestinian homes in Israeli-occupied territories and raids by Israel on southern Lebanon were evidence of "the continuation of Jewish America's strikes against Islam and its holy places."

"The Islamic world needs to confront this and return to its religion, and work with the Book of our Lord and adhere to its directives," said the statement, which quoted a Koranic verse stating Allah's support for Moslems fighting to protect Islam.

The Gama'a has targeted mainly Christians, tourists and police in its violent attacks in Egypt.

## EXPERT

Continued from Page 1

"This is totally ridiculous," said Kimche. "[The Americans] don't need someone on the spot to target the sites. It just wasn't necessary for the missiles fired. And in a move like this, the Americans would want to do it all on their own."

History has shown that vigorous strikes at terrorists sometimes elicit harsh responses. Israel bore witness to this following the killing of Hamas master bomber Yehya Ayyash in January 1996. It was followed by the most vicious revenge suicide bombings Israel had ever seen.

The director of the International Policy Institute for Counter-Terrorism, Boaz Ganor, believes the US strikes will not invite more deadly terrorist attacks.

"At the worst, such strikes won't increase their ability to carry out more attacks; and at best, will greatly damage their capabilities to do so," Ganor wrote.

"It would seem that bin Laden and the organizations allied with him, not to mention his many followers around the world, still have the ability to execute terrorist attacks," Ganor said. "But now their motivation to carry out such attacks will be greater than ever, as they will feel they must avenge themselves and restore their image."

Kimche described bin Laden's group as the "most dangerous that we have seen in this century."

"One has to realize it is not just one big organization commanding thousands of troops. It is a conglomeration which gives other terrorist groups logistical help, arms, and money," Kimche said.

Ganor said that the strike made it clear to nations like Sudan and Afghanistan that they will be held responsible for giving refuge to terrorist groups.

Former head of the Mossad Shabtai Shavit said that Israel needs to be prepared for terrorists to use non-conventional weapons in the future. Speaking on Channel 2, Shavit said that these would most likely be chemical.

## HIZBULLAH

Continued from Page 1

Reinforced concrete walls have been erected at strategic sites along the route to try and minimize the dangers posed by the missiles.

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazi, in a briefing with reporters at Northern Command headquarters on Friday, said the fact that the vehicles had kept a safe distance from one another had prevented even more casualties.

He said that attacks of this nature had occurred in the past and were unfortunately likely to happen in the future, although the IDF is constantly revising its methods to deal with the threat from roadside bombs.

Ashkenazi was asked how the Hizbullah squad had managed to plant such a large explosive device so close to the position, virtually under the eyes of the soldiers there.

"Those who are acquainted with the security zone, the terrain and the topography, know that [if the enemy uses] cover of darkness and makes use of the topography, we cannot hermetically close every meter," he said.

"This also helps us at times, and sometimes it helps Hizbullah to get close [to targets] and plant devices close to positions," said Ashkenazi.

He said that the IDF refrained as much as possible from using civilian vehicles in the security zone, but it could not be totally avoided.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz visited Northern Command headquarters on Friday to assess the situation.

Ashkenazi said that even a chain of incidents like those last week would not disrupt the IDF or cause it to lose its "balance."

"This is a daily war. There have been hundreds of incidents since the beginning of the year, including dozens of roadside bombs. In most of the cases, we



OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gaby Ashkenazi briefs reporters at Northern Command headquarters on Friday.

(Avihu Shapiro/Israel Sun)

succeeded in discovering the devices. In a few cases, however, they [Hizbullah] have succeeded."

IAF warplanes struck at Hizbullah targets in the Jabal Soud region on Friday morning. It was the fifth air raid on targets in Lebanon in the space of 48 hours.

Reports from Lebanon said an elderly Lebanese civilian was wounded in Arab Salim village north of the security zone on Friday morning as a result of IDF or South Lebanese Army shelling during exchanges in the area.

Ashkenazi said the IDF was committed to the Grapes of Wrath understandings, although it would not hesitate to return fire to locations where shooting originates in cases where the shooting endangered the lives of soldiers.

Liat Collins adds: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Friday that Israel will continue trying to find a safe way to leave Lebanon.

Netanyahu broke off his vacation in the North following the

deaths in Lebanon last week and the murder of Shlomo Ra'anana in Hebron.

Asked during an Israel Radio interview how long the situation in Lebanon would remain as it is, Netanyahu said: "It's difficult for me to say when we will be able to leave Lebanon with suitable security arrangements but I can tell you we have not stopped our efforts and attempts - some open and some less open."

He did not elaborate on specific efforts but said, "We know there is no small interest among various elements in Lebanon concerning our proposal to leave Lebanon and of course there is a response to this in some parts of the international community."

"But we know that until we can carry this out IDF soldiers protecting the North are under increasing attack, [with] more and more murderous roadside devices, and we are trying to find the solutions to limit the terrible and painful harm caused by these devices."

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#### Keeping the peace

Policemen patrol the Old City on Friday to discourage unrest during mosque prayers on the 29th anniversary of an attempt to burn down the Aksa Mosque. Several Palestinians were arrested at the A-Ram checkpoint protesting against police refusal to let West Bank residents cross into Jerusalem to mark the day that Australian tourist Michael Rohan set fire to the shrine. (Brian Hender)

## Kanafani: Peace process still alive

By LAMIA LAHOUD

The peace process has not yet reached a dead end, despite the present stalemate, Marwan Kanafani, spokesman to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, said over the weekend. Although there are obvious problems, the two sides still speak to each other unofficially and know each other's positions, Kanafani said at his home in Ramallah.

Kanafani, a Palestinian Legislative Council member, said that "talk about the end of the talks does not reflect the reality. As long as the highest authority has not decided that this is the end of the peace process, we will try to keep the talks going."

However, Kanafani believes that at this stage "positive intervention" by the US is needed to prevent what he calls "negative intervention," referring to the frustration developing on the Palestinian street.

Referring to reports the PA has refused Israel's proposal for some 3 percent of the withdrawal to include a nature reserve in the Judean Desert, Kanafani said there is no reason for the PA to object to a redeployment from land in the Judean Desert, "since it is part of occupied Palestinian

territory. It is part of our country and we will take it, even if it was a fish sanctuary," he said.

But, he added, once it is PA territory, the PA could do with the land as it pleases, though during the interim period the PA has agreed to certain limitations concerning the land.

He said the talks broke off, because Israel refused to define the area on maps and did not explain what is meant by the term "nature reserve."

"What does it mean, can we shoot a snake there or move a rock?" he asked. Mohammed Dahlan, the PA's Preventive Security Service chief in Gaza, said the PA may agree to a nature reserve in the Judean Desert, but would insist on it receiving status B like the rest of the 10% from which Israel will redeploy. In B, the PA is in charge of civil affairs and shares security responsibility with Israel.

According to Kanafani, the PA negotiators have fallen into the trap of discussing percentages, losing sight of the other issues at stake.

These issues are the Gaza seaport and airport, safe passage for Palestinians between Gaza and the West Bank, the third redeployment, and the final-status talks, he said.

"If Israel would offer us 50% of the West Bank and no more, I would not accept, but I would agree to a lesser percentage if we agree to continue the process," he said. Kanafani reasoned that, according to the agreement, Israel must eventually hand over all of area C to the PA, except for settlements, specified military locations, and issues relating to the final-status talks.

He said Arafat has never tried to fool anyone about his intention to create a Palestinian state. "We would very much like for this state to come into being as a result of our agreement with Israel," Kanafani said, referring to threats by that Arafat would unilaterally proclaim a Palestinian state in March 1999, if no agreement has been reached by then.

However, Kanafani added, as long as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is reluctant to reach agreement on a much easier issue, it is hard to see how he will come to agreement with the PA on the final-status issues. Netanyahu has two choices, according to Kanafani. "Either he wants to be just a prime minister, or a leader," he said. "Leaders take chances; prime ministers try to maintain coalitions."

## Tel Aviv opens 'polluted' beaches

The Tel Aviv Municipality opened the city's beaches to bathers yesterday afternoon in contravention of Health Ministry orders, leaving ministry officials seething and beach-goers confused.

Though only a few hundred people had come to the beach, they found that the black flags - indicating swimming is forbidden - had been replaced by white or red flags, and that life guards and municipal inspectors were telling people that swimming was safe.

The ministry on Thursday had forbidden bathing on Tel Aviv's beaches over the weekend, after workers laying the foundation of a building in Jaffa damaged the area's central sewage pipe, through which 200,000 cubic meters of sewage pass daily. As a result raw sewage was leaked into the sea.

Ze'ev Fisch, the ministry's environmental quality official, explained that it takes 48-72 hours for the shore to cleanse itself after a serious pollution incident, thus yesterday bathing was still forbidden.

He said that a check by Health Ministry and Environment Ministry inspectors had found sewage still on the beach or floating in the water.

"It is irresponsible to allow people to go into the water," said Fisch. Tel Aviv city manager Meir Doron said that water tests conducted by the Health Ministry on Thursday and Friday had shown the water was safe, and questioned the ministry's refusal to open the beaches.

But Fisch noted that water-quality tests are random and only part of the general assessment that leads to a ministry decision. (Iim)

## Five killed in accidents

A woman was killed and five people were hurt last night when a jeep ran off the road and into the Rose Pub on the corner of Ibn Gvirol and Marmurak streets in Tel Aviv.

The injured were taken to Ichilov Hospital. Menahem Azoulay, 55, of Yesud Hama'ala, was killed yesterday morning when his all-terrain vehicle overturned and rolled down a hill in the Hatzor area in Galilee.

A truck carrying liquid carbon dioxide overturned near Masada around 5:00 Friday morning, killing a passenger and lightly injuring his brother, the driver.

The carbon dioxide leaked slightly from the truck, but workers from the Environment Ministry and Dead Sea Works help the rescue crews avert any danger. It took several hours for rescue

workers to extract the body of Ro'i Ezra, 19, of Atlit, from the crushed cab of the truck. His brother was taken to Beersheba's Soroka Hospital. The Arava highway was closed in both directions while the rescue crew was at work.

Late Thursday night, Aharon Yosef, 50, of Kfar Zeitim, was killed when the car he was driving collided with a truck near Tiberias. A Magen David Adom crew tried to save Yosef, but he died on the way to the hospital.

A nine-year-old boy who was hit by a car on Thursday in Netanya died of his injuries on Friday. A 10-year-old boy, who was supposed to be helping his father unload vegetables from the car, apparently got in to the driver's seat and began playing with the controls. The car then rolled backwards, hitting the other boy. (Iim)

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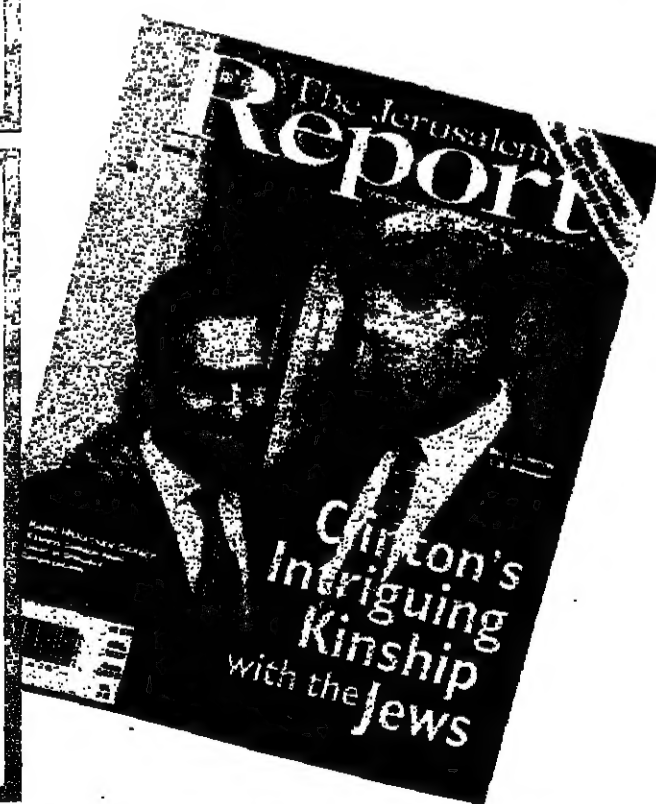
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# Holocaust victims sue German metal firm

By CHRISTINE GARDNER

NEWARK, NJ (Reuters) — A class-action suit filed against German chemical and metal group Degussa AG on Friday accused it of profiting from precious metals taken from Holocaust victims, including gold teeth pulled from concentration camp prisoners.

The suit, filed in US District Court in Newark, New Jersey, seeks unspecified damages from the 125-year-old German company. Attorney Ed Fagan said he would seek ownership of the company as an award.

The class-action suit was filed by four Holocaust survivors, all from New York.

"These people bought the company with their blood and their teeth. They own it," Fagan said at a news conference at the federal courthouse in Newark.

The suit claims the company, which has a US office in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, smelted precious metals taken from Holocaust victims in Nazi Germany, especially gold teeth and fillings extracted from prisoners.

In Germany, Degussa said it could not comment.

"Degussa has not been served any legal documents in this respect," it said in a statement issued at its Frankfurt headquarters. "Degussa is therefore not in a

position to comment on any aspects or allegations made in [news] reports," it said.

The company said it had already commissioned an independent historian to research its role in "that dark period of German history." Degussa admitted last year it had refined and melted down gold and silver looted from Holocaust victims during the Nazi era, but said it had been ordered to do so by the Nazi government.

Fagan countered that, if not for Degussa, the Nazis would not have known how to extract and reuse metals from victims.

One survivor named in the lawsuit is 69-year-old Michael Schonberger, who recalled watching Nazi soldiers pry the fillings from his father's teeth when they arrived at Auschwitz in 1943. The soldiers used no anesthetics, and his father screamed and bled profusely, he said.

The New Jersey lawsuit also accuses Degussa of acquiring confiscated Jewish-owned companies under the Nazi policy of Aryanization, using forced labor and holding an interest in Degesch, which made the Zyklon B gas used in death chambers.

Fagan called on New Jersey's state pension fund to divest itself of its Degussa holdings and urged boycott of Degussa products.

Degussa, one of the world's

largest metal producers, makes dental alloys and materials used in agriculture, motor vehicles, mining, pharmaceuticals, electronics, recycling, and refining.

The company has said it is already making humanitarian payments to former slave laborers in a Degussa factory in Poland during the war.

The lawsuit is the latest in a string of actions taken to seek restitution for Holocaust victims.

Last week Swiss banks agreed to a landmark \$1.25 billion settlement with Holocaust survivors over unreturned assets in dormant Nazi-era accounts.

Following the banks' lead, Italian insurance company Assicurazioni Generali SpA said on Wednesday it would pay \$100 million to settle Holocaust-era insurance claims.

Holocaust survivors also have filed an \$18 billion lawsuit against Germany's largest commercial banks, Deutsche Bank and Dresdner Bank, accusing them of trading in looted gold, coins and dental work.

Nazi files uncovered last year showed that several German companies, including Degussa, received gold plundered from Nazi death camps. The files have been used as a key source for research into the Nazis' gold trade during the Second World War and prompted the lawsuit against the two banks.



Hockey players beat the heat

World class hockey coach Roger Neilson (in black) escapes the heat last week by running a camp at Canada Center in Metulla for young hockey players from Israel and Canada. Some 60 youths participated in the camp, which was sponsored by UIA-Canada.

(Joe Malachuk)

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## No oil minister in new Nigerian cabinet

By FELIX OBUAH

ABUJA (Reuters) — Nigeria's ruler General Abdulsalam Abubakar yesterday released the names of his military and civilian cabinet, but nobody was appointed to the key post of oil minister.

Abubakar gave no explanation for the absence of an oil minister in an address to the new cabinet, in which he told ministers to shun corruption and ignore politics in the run-up to the restoration of democracy on May 29 next year.

Presidency sources said a new department would be created at the presidency to oversee the oil industry, which accounts for at least 90 percent of export earnings in the country of some 104 million people.

Ismaila Usman, a central banker with a reputation for discipline who was demoted for standing up to late dictator Sani Abacha's demands for cash, was named finance minister.

His appointment takes place at a time when Nigeria faces critical decisions on privatization and relations with foreign lenders, as well as the blow of low world oil prices.

A former ambassador to the United States, I.C. Olsiemeka, replaces Abacha's voluble foreign minister, Tom Ikimi — the architect of a defiant policy towards the rest of the world and its complaints about human rights abuses.

While the appointees were drawn from across Nigeria, including the southwestern heartland of opposition to military rule, well-known politicians were absent from the list.

"This administration is quite well aware of a general perception among many of our people that public appointments like yours offer a lifetime opportunity to acquire enormous wealth," Abubakar told the new ministers.

"We will therefore closely monitor all of you, as well as any public officer given positions of trust and responsibility, to ensure that their assignments are not used as springboards for launch into criminal affluence," he added.

Since his appointment following Abacha's sudden death, Abubakar, 56, has won plaudits at home and abroad for freeing political prisoners, embarking on apparently genuine democratic reforms and starting to investigate corruption under the former regime.

The long delay in naming the cabinet ministers — responsible for much day-to-day running of government affairs — worried business and other Nigerians over whether there was discord at the highest level of the military Provisional Ruling Council.



Tens of thousands of mourners line Omagh's High Street yesterday, exactly one week after a car-bomb killed 28 people and injured hundreds. (AP)

## Silence across Ireland in memory of bomb victims

By SHAWN POGATCHNIK

OMAGH (AP) — Silence fell upon this bomb-shattered town and across Ireland yesterday in memory of 28 people slain by IRA dissidents, as another ruthless band of anti-British outlaws responded to the atrocity by announcing their own cease-fire.

More than 20,000 Protestants and Catholics packed the center of Omagh to remember, through their sobs and tears, the dead and the more than 330 wounded by the Aug. 15 car bomb.

Hundreds of thousands more marked the slaughter — the worst in three decades of violence in Northern Ireland — with one minute's silence in town squares, churches, sports stadiums and shopping centers across Ireland.

The Irish Republican Army dissidents responsible for the bomb have already formally "suspended" their campaign to fall in line with the IRA cease-fire of July 1997.

On Saturday morning, the Irish National Liberation Army conceded that its cause was futile and announced a truce, too.

The INLA, founded in 1975 and an opponent of April's peace accord, insisted the accord was "not worth the sacrifices of the past 30 years" but should be respected because most Irish people wanted it.

"We recognize that armed struggle can never be the only option for revolutionaries," said the statement, read speedily at a Belfast

news conference by the group's reputed commander, Willie Gallagher. "In the new conditions prevailing it is only right to respond to the new conditions. Those conditions demand a cease-fire."

The statement offered what it called "a sincere, heartfelt and genuine apology" for the many civilians it killed by accident or design — but pointedly said the INLA had "nothing to apologize for" when it killed British soldiers, police, prison officers and Protestant extremists.

The INLA killed about 130 people in its failed campaign to supersede the IRA as the dominant anti-British paramilitary group operating within Northern Ireland's most hard-line Catholic neighborhoods.

Like the IRA, its goal is to abolish Northern Ireland as a Protestant-majority state linked with Britain. But most of those it killed were Protestant civilians or its own members, as the INLA feuded over splitting proceeds from drug-dealing and other criminal rackets.

Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, who attended Saturday's ceremony in Omagh, welcomed the INLA truce as "good news at the end of a bleak and tragic week."

Ahern said the so-called Real IRA dissidents who bombed Omagh "must now convert its suspension of operations into a definitive and unqualified cessation of violence."

And he emphasized that a third anti-British organization that still maintains its right to bomb Northern Ireland towns, the Continuity IRA, "must now acknowledge that it is insanity to defy the Irish people and must also definitively end their anachronistic campaign."

Joining Ahern outside Omagh's courthouse was the Irish president, Belfast-born Mary McAleese, and a remarkable gathering of church and political leaders brought together by disaster.

The leaders of the Catholic, Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian churches in Ireland stood shoulder to shoulder. To one side, Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness, reputed former IRA commanders and today leaders of the Sinn Féin party; to the other, the Protestant and Catholic heads of Northern Ireland's newborn cross-community government, David Trimble and Seamus Mallon.

Beyond them a sea of ordinary residents, some wearing bandages and casts from the blast, wiped back tears as the names of the 28 dead were slowly read out.

"At this hour last Saturday, 28 good and deeply loved people, one carrying twins awaiting birth, were alive in these streets," said a Catholic priest, the Rev. Kevin Mulligan, recalling the moments when police evacuated people away from the courthouse — and unwittingly towards the bomb.

"Death and life were blasted together. Death carried life and peace away," Mulligan said.

## Congo rebels: We've downed another plane

By NICHOLAS PHYTHIAN

KINSHASA (Reuters) — Rebels battling their way towards the outskirts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo's capital said yesterday they had shot down another plane. Meanwhile, President Laurent Kabila spurned a South African peace summit.

"We shot down a government plane today near Kasangulu, bringing to three the number of enemy aircraft we have brought down in this conflict," rebel commander Dioudonne Kabengele told Reuters at rebel front-line headquarters in Sona Bata 65 km from Kinshasa.

"We are advancing steadily towards Kinshasa," he said, adding that his troops were just 30 km from the capital and planned a showdown in the city itself.

There was no independent confirmation of the rebel claims. Diplomats said on Friday that Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe had sent up to 600 combat troops and four MiG jet fighters to help Kabila.

Yesterday, Mugabe's spokesman denied that Zimbabwe had any MiGs in the former Zaire.

Rebels also said they had clashed with Angolan troops who had landed at Moanda on Congo's Atlantic coast from the enclave of Cabinda.

Angola, which has helped

Kabila in the past, has declared its willingness to support him again.

In Pretoria, South African President Nelson Mandela's peace summit faltered as Kabila and Mugabe stayed home.

Mandela's spokesman, Parks Mankahlana, said the summit had yet to begin, although Rwandan President Pasteur Bizimungu and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni were there, and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano had been asked to try persuading Mugabe to attend.

Kabila was sending a ministerial delegation. "The intention is to today work out a basis for establishing a government of national unity in the Congo and find agreement on solving the problem by peaceful means," Mankahlana told reporters.

Yesterday's mini-summit is supposed to be followed by a meeting of the heads of state of all 14 Southern African Development Community (SADC) nations of which Mandela, who rejects military intervention, is chairman.

But diplomacy was definitely in the back seat yesterday, with the Tutsi-led rebel troops advancing northeast towards Kinshasa, and Kabila himself holed up in the southern city of Lubumbashi in his native Shaba, formerly

Katanga, province.

Kabila, who toppled veteran dictator Mobutu Sese Seko in May 1997, accuses his then allies Rwanda and Uganda of invading in support of rebels who rose against him on August 2.

Both countries have denied the accusation. But, as tensions rise in the region, both have also warned other countries to keep out of the fray.

Kabila fell out with his mentors over ways of ensuring security in eastern Congo on their common border and over the status and role of Congo's ethnic Tutsi Banyamulenge minority.

Tutsi soldiers launched the revolt in Goma in the east, where the rebels hold the major towns near the border. The revolt, which has a political leadership demanding democracy and includes soldiers who served in the late Mobutu's army, began after Kabila ordered all Rwandan soldiers to leave the country.

Kabila has promised elections for next April, but rules by decree after banning politics last year.

Yesterday Kabila's government expelled two French diplomats from Kinshasa, accusing them of suspicious and undiplomatic behavior. France was a long-time supporter of the francophone Mobutu and is known to be antagonistic towards the anglophone Kabila.

## Klan leader found guilty in 32-year-old slaying

HATTIESBURG, Miss. (Reuters) — A Ku Klux Klan leader called "the meanest man in Mississippi" was found guilty Friday in the slaying 32 years ago of a grocer who offered to collect the state's poll tax so blacks could vote.

The jury, made up of six whites, five blacks and an Asian, found Sam Bowers, former imperial wizard of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, guilty of murdering grocer Vernon Dahmer, a local leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Dahmer's family, which refused to drop its quest for justice despite decades of frustration, rejoiced at

the verdict. His wife, Ellie, had tears pouring down her cheeks as she walked out of the courthouse with some of her children.

"Oh, I'm filled with joy," she said. "The tears I'm shedding, I'm shedding for Vernon, because I know he's looking at us today. It's a happy moment for us. It's one we've waited for for about 30 years."

In 1966 Dahmer angered the Klan by offering to allow blacks to pay Mississippi's poll tax at his grocery store. The tax, since ruled unconstitutional by the US Supreme Court, was designed to prevent blacks from voting.

Dahmer was killed after two car-

loads of Klansmen pulled up to his home with their car horns blaring and lobbed a firebomb inside the house where Dahmer, his wife and eight children were sleeping.

Dahmer helped his family escape out a back window and then exchanged gunfire with the Klansmen through the front door to distract the attackers as his family fled to a nearby barn.

Bowers, a 73-year-old businessman previously convicted in connection with the 1964 deaths of three civil rights workers, had stood trial, four times before on charges related to the firebombing. Each time, however, the all-white juries were deadlocked.

## Bahamians prepare for hurricane Bonnie

Could reach southeast US tomorrow

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP) — Bonnie strengthened into the Atlantic season's first hurricane yesterday and headed toward sparsely populated Bahamian islands, on a route that could threaten the southeastern United States.

Another storm was gaining strength in the Pacific Ocean.

"It's definitely going to happen. The southeastern portion [of the Bahamas] is going to be hit today," meteorologist Dave Chorney said

yesterday from the US National Hurricane Center in Miami.

On Crooked Island, fuel distributor Daisy Scavella said the sun was shining as residents battened down windows.

People on the low-lying islands were most concerned about flooding.

Bahamian radio warned the islands' fishing fleet and yachts to head for safe port. The islands' meteorological department said Bonnie would hit landfall in the

southeast later yesterday and pass by Long Island, Eleuthera and the Abacos over the next 48 to 72 hours.

He said winds could reach 160 kph by tomorrow.

Chorney said the worst thunderstorms were on the northern side of Bonnie, in the open Atlantic.

Bonnie was about 150 kilometers north-northwest of Turk Island at 11 a.m. with sustained winds of 140 kph and higher gusts.

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# UN officer dies after Kabul attack

By RAJA ASGHAR

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) — An Italian army officer working for the UN died yesterday after being shot in Kabul on Friday, apparently in retaliation for US missile strikes against targets in Afghanistan and Sudan.

The body of Lt.-Col. Carmine Calo, who was working as deputy military adviser with the UN Special Mission to Afghanistan (UNSMIA), was brought to Islamabad yesterday to be sent to Rome, UN officials said.

A Pakistan-based Afghan news service quoted the supreme leader of Afghanistan's Taliban Islamic movement, Mullah Mohammed Omar, as saying that two Pakistani men had been arrested for the Kabul attack and would be tried under Islamic Sharia law.

The Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) also quoted another Taliban spokesman, Wakil Ahmad, as say-

ing both the accused had been taken to the southern Afghan town of Kandahar.

Earlier, another Pakistan-based Afghan news service, Schar, said four people had been arrested — all non-Afghans.

Acting head of UNSMA, James Ngobi, quoting the Afghan Embassy in Islamabad, said in a statement earlier that the killers had been arraigned before a military court.

A French political affairs officer with UNSMA, Eric Lavertu, was shot in the hand in the same incident but has been released from hospital, Ngobi said.

Italy's charge d'affaires in Islamabad, Lello Crivellari, has said the shooting was a reaction to US raids against what Washington said was a chemical weapons factory near Khartoum and terrorist training camps in Afghanistan.

Ngobi said the two UN officials travelling in a UN vehicle were

intercepted by a truck carrying a number of gunmen.

"One of the gunmen jumped out of the truck and started firing deliberately at the UN officials, injuring both of them severely," he said.

He said both officials were taken to the International Committee of the Red Cross hospital in Kabul.

Calo was reported to have been hit in the chest by a bullet that bounced off the car. He underwent surgery in the Afghan capital but his life had not been thought to be in danger.

It is my sad duty, and with deep regret, that I have to report that Lt.-Col. Calo was pronounced dead at the hospital soon after 10 a.m. today," Ngobi said.

"We have been informed by the Afghanistan embassy in Islamabad that the Taliban authorities in Kabul have now apprehended the perpetrators of the crime and have arraigned them before the Taliban military court," he said.



President Clinton boards Air Force One on Friday to return to his vacation on Martha's Vineyard. (AP)

# Clinton still trying to make peace with Hillary

By ARSHAD MOHAMMED

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — President Bill Clinton is still trying to make peace with his wife and daughter after his admission last week of an affair with Monica Lewinsky, the White House said yesterday.

"I think he's working on it. My guess is that they've still got work to do," White House spokesman Mike McCurry told reporters on Martha's Vineyard, the Massachusetts island where Clinton is on vacation with his wife, Hillary, and their daughter, Chelsea.

"There's a healing process that needs to occur, and as far as I can tell, it's under way but it's not done yet," McCurry added.

In a televised address last Monday, Clinton said he had misled his wife about the affair, which was carried on within the White House when Lewinsky, now 25, was an intern at the executive mansion.

Last Tuesday morning, the

Clinton family set off together for a long-scheduled vacation on Martha's Vineyard, a magnet for celebrities, intellectuals and Washington's elite.

But the president has not spent much time on the island. He interrupted his holiday on Thursday to announce US military strikes on what he called terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan in retaliation for the bombings of US embassies in Tanzania and Kenya on August 7.

The president flew to Washington for 24 hours and returned to Martha's Vineyard on Friday evening to rejoin his wife and daughter at a waterfront estate borrowed from wealthy Boston developer Richard Friedman.

Clinton had planned to take two weeks off, but his holiday was shortened by his testimony on Monday to the grand jury investigating whether he committed perjury or obstruction of justice in the Lewinsky affair. Clinton denies the charges.

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## On 'Third Rock From the Sun' tomorrow night: Channel 3's 3rd dimension

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

See Dick. See Dick run. See Sally. See Sally run. See Sally and Dick and Harry and Tommy, the four heroes of *Third Rock From the Sun*, run away from their worst nightmares in 3-D during the hilarious end-of-season conclusion of the series (on Channel 3 at 8:25 p.m. tomorrow).

To allow for full appreciation of the superb two-part episode entitled "Nightmare on Dick Street," the Family Channel and the cable companies are offering viewers special glasses if they call the Telemesser number flashed during promos for the show.

Our advice: run, don't walk, to the phone and make sure you get a pair before tomorrow night. The specs will make viewing the 3-D bits — even more over-the-top than usual for this wild series — that much more enjoyable.

There are four main 3-D sequences in the finale of the series, which is built around the season-ending plot: Mary (Jane Curtin) has finally been granted a scholarship to study in Borneo for a year, forcing Dick (John Lithgow) to act quickly to keep her from going.

Forced to make a commitment, Dick decides it's time to propose, but not before experiencing his first nightmare, which includes a visit to a sinister "truth

machine," where Mary, turned into a Marlene Dietrich-like torture queen, awaits him. There's also a very, very gooey jello attack.

Meanwhile, Sally (Kristen Johnston) finds her relationship with Officer Don (Wayne Knight, who also played Newman on *Seinfeld*) on the rocks, after she captures the wanted criminal he was after.

That leads to her nightmare, the most impressive of the four, involving a salute to Fellini movies, paparazzi, and a room full of feathers.

The special effects — and the glasses — let us better appreciate the world as seen from inside a crystal sugar bowl, or watch a

vamping Sally take bites out of a bouncing Earth before she discovers an unnerving secret about Don.

Confused by his nightmare, Dick goes to a psychiatrist who soon has him on a Prozac-like pill that gives the spaced-out Lithgow a chance to act even spacier. When Sally gets on the stuff as well, Tommy (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) panics and orders Harry (the superb French Stewart) to contact the Big Giant Head and arrange for them to be brought home "for maintenance."

Meanwhile, high-school student Tommy has his own nightmare, which includes falling from a skyscraper — a fate appreciated all that much more with the 3-D

specs — and a South Sea island tryst with his teacher, Ms. Frost. Even Harry nods off into a nightmare, but his is less sinister, a spirited production number that takes viewers from the sidewalks of New York into an aquarium via the sewer system. There you're advised to look out for those fish, and a special guest appearance by singer Randy Newman.

Realizing he may never see her again, Dick rushes to say goodbye to Mary while the others prepare to leave at the appointed hour. Will Dick make it back on time for the transport, or will he stay and marry Mary? Tune in tomorrow night and find out, and don't forget your special specs.



From left: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, John Lithgow, Kristen Johnston and French Stewart in 'Third Rock From the Sun'

## A 'Real Princess' turns into a pumpkin

Sabra Sounds



By Shai Tsar

The road of rock is littered with vanity records. Every now and then, a Bruce Willis or a Naomi Campbell decides that their celebrity status means that they can realize their dreams of becoming a musician. As a result, they go into

**REAL PRINCESS**  
(Nesicha Amiti)  
Dana Dvorin  
(Red Ant)

the recording studio and emerge with a record that, more often than not, goes down like a lead balloon. Recent local examples: Dana Dvorin. A former model, Dvorin is best known as one of those scantily clad presenters on the Children's Channel. She has starred in several successful children's videos and her face adorns school diaries and notebooks. Having won over a majority of the 10-year-olds in the country, Dvorin now wants to reach out to the grown-ups. Her vehicle for doing so is a lackluster musical debut, *Nesicha Amiti* ("Real Princess").

In the past, the music world has seen some examples of models who have gone on to successful, or at least interesting, singing careers. Nico springs to mind, as does Grace Jones. Compared with Dvorin, however, even a minor light like Vanessa Paradis comes off sounding like Edith Piaf.

*Real Princess* has all the hallmarks of a classic vanity album.

While the production is more than competent, the singer seems woefully out of place in the middle of it. The album sounds rather familiar, as though it was pieced together out of Iggy Waxman's cast-offs.

Dvorin sings like many Israeli rock stars. Her voice is flat, a little flirty, and lacks range. This is not a problem in and of itself. After all, singers from Corinne Allal to the Witches have succeeded with less. Dvorin, however, lacks both their attitude and their flair.

Given her vocal limitations, a stripped-down, production emphasizing the sharpness of her voice would have worked better. Instead, she goes for a big sound. The album's artistic director Dan Toran has put together a group of Israel's best studio musicians to back Dvorin. Unfortunately, she suffers as a result.

On the overproduced numbers such as "Going Out," and "Since I Met Rommy," Dvorin's voice alternately clashes and gets lost in the swirl of music going on around her.

Her artistic pretensions also get in the way. Dvorin wrote the lyrics to most of the songs. These deal with her glamorous Ramat Aviv lifestyle, as well as her more prosaic, romantic, concerns. The songs, however, never seem to rise much above the "I love him, I want him, I dream of him" level and indicate that she would have done better to let someone else put words to the music.

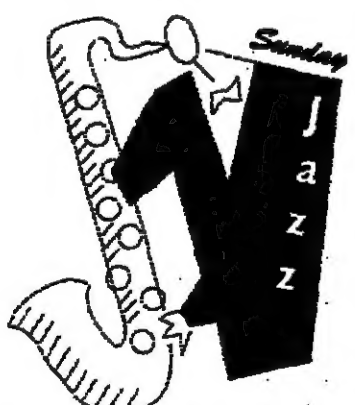
Despite the many shortcomings of *Real Princess*, Dvorin may very well succeed in the music business. For one thing, she seems to have a lot of friends in the musical establishment willing to humor her musical whims. As a glitzy celeb, she also has allies in the media who will help support and promote this record as much as possible.

In the event that Dana Dvorin becomes a musical superstar, remember that you heard it here first: Like the Emperor in the fable, this "Princess" has no clothes. She can't sing, either.



Having won over a majority of the country's 10-year-olds, Dana Dvorin now reaches out to adults on her new disc.

## Irreplaceable instrumentalists



By Calev Ben-David

The violin and vibraphone aren't two of the first instruments that come to mind when one thinks about jazz. Yet Stephane Grappelli and

**LIVE AT THE BLUE NOTE**  
Lionel Hampton (NMC)  
**MENUBIN & GRAPPELLI**  
PLAY GERSHWIN  
(NMC)

Lionel Hampton, both born in 1908, not only produced great music with those respective instruments, but boast two of the longest performing careers of any musician. Perhaps it was the very uniqueness of their niche in jazz history, a sense of their own irreplaceability, that sustained them for so long.

The ageless, irrepressible Hampton is still going strong of course, not only as a musician and bandleader, but as the inheritor of Louis Armstrong's mantle as jazz's premier goodwill ambassador. In fact, Hampton has become such a "personality" that his persona as the jolly vibraphonist has somewhat overshadowed

his musical genius. *Lionel Hampton and the Golden Men of Jazz Live at the Blue Note* helps rectify that situation. For this 1991 performance at New York's top jazz venue, Hampton performs with a much stronger band than usual. In fact, the lineup here constitutes a virtual who's who of golden-age players: trumpeters Clark Terry and Harry Edison, tenor saxophonists James Moody and Buddy Tate, trombonist Al Grey, pianist Hank Jones, bassist Milt Hinton, and drummer Grady Tate.

One of the benefits of having so many great musicians on hand is that Hampton is more willing than usual to pass the solo spotlight onto others, content with providing them with superb rhythmic backing, the role most uniquely suited for the vibraphone. His playing here on renditions of "God Bless the Child" and "Body and Soul" (which features some very soulful singing from Tate) is superbly subtle and delicate, not words usually associated with Hampton.

That isn't to say there's any shortage here of the joyful banging he is noted for. On Duke Ellington's "Ring Dem Bells" and Hampton's signature tune (which he co-wrote with Benny Goodman) "Flyin' Home," he cuts loose with a brio undiminished by age. For those who'd be satisfied with just one Lionel Hampton album in their collection, this stellar performance is as good as any.

THE RECENT passing of Stephane Grappelli was a true loss for jazz. I had the privilege of seeing him perform in Jerusalem at the Israel Festival a few years back, and marveled at the suppleness of his playing. His use of the violin as a jazz instrument, starting with the Hot Club Five in



Yehudi Menuhin (left) and Stephane Grappelli

Paris in the 1930s, was truly groundbreaking, and I've always thought it's a little odd that more musicians haven't followed his particular path.

Grappelli made six collaborative albums with the classical violinist Yehudi Menuhin, and this tribute to George Gershwin, with arrangements by Nelson Riddle and Max Harris, is arguably the best. Grappelli performed Gershwin's music throughout his career; one forgets given the six decades since the composer's untimely death that the two are practically contemporaries, with Grappelli born only 10 years after Gershwin. And many of Gershwin's jazz tunes have a classical complexity that makes them especially appropriate for Menuhin's level of skill.

The sound of their string duets lends tonal and emotional heft to ballads like "Summertime," "The Man I Love" and "Embraceable You." And on jaunty songs like "I Got Rhythm" and "Nice Work If You Can Get It," it is Grappelli's jaunty improvisation that provides the melodies with the necessary oomph.

## Ticket to a dark paradise

By HELEN KAYE

Shemov Hava called the main characters of his *Ticket to Paradise* ("Karis Legan Eden") Rabin and Amir, "but they aren't meant to be those actual people," he explains. "They're game personas, the idea being that all of us are either one or the other."

Yitzhak Rabin and his murderer, Yigal Amir, paid "a price for a silly argument, whether over territory or tomatoes versus margarine." The characters and the backdrop vignettes of everyday life reflect Israeli society, condemned by Hava as lacking values, materialistic and corrupt.

"We have no spiritual or intellectual depth," he adds. "We live on slogans and breed continual violence, a violence that makes all of us responsible for Rabin's death. This is one of the play's central themes."

*Ticket to Paradise* opens at the Jerusalem Khan tonight. It's a production of The Other Theater, Hava's six-year-old community

theater.

A graduate of the Hebrew University drama department, Hava started working with a youth group, using theater "as a way of creating culture and a genuine dialogue. *Ticket* is the third play he's created with the group, most of whose members are in their early twenties.

The play is a "series of surrealist meetings between Rabin and Amir. There's no plot, because a plot is one-dimensional and restricts an imaginative response from the audience. I don't think that life has a story, rather it's fragmented into thousands of details."

The Other Theater presented *Ticket to Paradise* at the Grenoble Festival in July. It'll perform in Paris again next June and has been invited to Moscow. In October, it goes to Lithuania.

The trips are funded by the members themselves, by festivals and by a Jerusalem foundation which also supports their ongoing activity, although the money is minimal.

"How come doors open internationally while at home we have to

fight for recognition?" Hava asks almost rhetorically. "The new seems to threaten Israeli society. We're not entertainment, but here there's a bread-and-circuses philosophy."

Some people fret that the festival's growing popularity, especially with Americans, lured across the border by a cheap Canadian dollar, could strip it of its unique characteristics.

This is a point that finds resonance with festival insiders.

"We have to be like Puerto Vallarta before Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor discovered it," Newton said. (Reuters)

## LIBI - The Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense

The Jewish community of Vienna recently held a festive fund-raising evening to mark the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel. The heads of the community have donated the evening's proceeds in their entirety to the Libi Fund. The event was moderated by Chief Rabbi of Austria, Rabbi Chaim Eisenberg, and featured well-known cantors, chief cantor of Vienna, Mr. Shalom Barzilai, and IDF chief cantor, Lt.-Col. Arye Brown, who came especially for the event. Vienna's police band volunteered its services and provided musical accompaniment for the performers. Clarinetist Hanan Bar-Sela also performed. Keynote speaker, Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, chief rabbi of Israel, enthralled the audience with a very moving speech.



(Right to left): Cantor of Vienna's synagogue, Shmuel Barzilai, Israel's chief rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, and Austria's chief rabbi Chaim Eisenberg.

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## TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

THIS LAST WEEK	ARTIST	TITLE
#1	1	EVAL GOLAN CHAYAL SHEL AHAVA
#2	3	EMMA SHAPLIN GARMINE MEO
#3	2	VIA WOW
#4	7	DANA INTERNATIONAL DIVA
#5	8	ALABINA ALABINA
#6	4	VIA JUBILEE CELEBRATION
#7	6	HITMAN 9
#8	5	BOAZ SHARABI KESHEAT NOGA'AT BI
#9	NEW	HASMACHIT HASMACHOT
#10	12	RITA TACHANOT BAZMAN
#11	20	EVAL GOLAN BELADAYICH
#12	24	VIA BOYS & GIRLS 2
#13	14	ETHNIX BRUCHIM HABAIM LE YISRAEL
#14	RE	O.S.T. ARMAGEDDON
#15	9	VIA HAZMANA LEMACHOL

Tower Records' top-selling albums for last week



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## Civilization strikes back

There is no pleasing some of President Bill Clinton's critics. There has been recent criticism of the weakness of US foreign policy in response to Saddam Hussein's machinations and international terrorist activity. Then, when Washington did strike hard and decisively at the terrorist camps in Afghanistan and Sudan, not only his enemies in the Moslem world, but the US media and some members of Congress, were quick to accuse Clinton of seeking a foreign diversion from his domestic problems.

A "Lewinsky motivation" can be dismissed as tabloid trash – for except in the world of movies and conspiracy theories, that is not how the vast machinery of United States intelligence, military, and diplomatic services operate. In any case, since Clinton's presidential approval rating remains barely dented by the Kenneth Starr investigation, it is nonsense to suggest he needed a cruise missile strike against terrorists to enhance it.

The terrorists are the enemy of civilization – not just of the United States or its president. It is all the more remarkable that this vicious network of Osama bin Laden should be so active in recent years. With the collapse of the Cold War and the dark subversive underground that thrived in it, the US has been a remarkably benign superpower. It is hard to fathom the fanatical hatred of it by Islamic terrorism. The US helped bin Laden's guerrillas fight the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, it curbed the maniacal activities of Muammar Gaddafi directed against his neighbors, it came to the rescue of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. All the thanks Washington has received for these arguably pro-Arab and pro-Moslem actions has been ever increasing terrorist hatred and ever weaker and more ungrateful friends.

It is clear that, for Islamic terrorism, there has been no lull in hatred and fanaticism, no post-Cold War peace dividend. Bin Laden and his compliant backers have continued to build terrorist infrastructures whose aim is no longer to liberate colonized states – nor even to liberate them from despotic rulers – but to wage eternal war on Western values and on non-Islamic peoples. It is the ultimate in racist, illogical, and fanatical warfare.

Clinton has finally decided: if they want war, let them have it. It is a disgrace that he is not getting the full backing of all politicians in Congress, all US allies in the democracies, and all its so-called friends in the Arab and Islamic world.

US intelligence services had some good luck at last, thanks to the excellent cooperation of Kenya and Tanzania, a great change from the surly obstruction they encountered in Saudi Arabia. Those responsible for the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing there, which left 19 American servicemen dead, have escaped justice largely as a result of the Saudi failure to pursue a vigorous investigation. It is clear from information released so far that the missile strikes were not a mere act of revenge – although retaliation is perfectly justified – but a vital action to deter further terrorist attacks being planned on American targets. As such, the attacks are only to be applauded.

The "swift and effective" response so routinely promised by American leaders – Republican as well as Democrat – and rarely delivered, has come at last. The most important principle that Clinton has adopted is that a difficult war on terrorism cannot be fought by the rules of evidence necessary to convict criminals in a court. Even a court requires only proof of crime beyond reasonable doubt, and it is clear US officials chose their targets for attack beyond reasonable doubt.

Growing concern over the proliferation of chemical weapons, and the possibility that such a wealthy network as bin Laden's could conceivably acquire a nuclear device or cruise missiles, makes the war against terrorism a serious international priority. The ruthlessness of the attack on Nairobi and the utter disregard for the terrorists for ordinary Africans demonstrates that, should these fanatics get weapons of mass destruction, they will not hesitate to use them.

International Islamic terrorism has changed since the days of so-called liberation struggles. It is now diffused and amorphous, with groups of various nationalities slipping back and forth across a variety of frontiers. They no longer claim credit for attacks, their ultimate objectives are vague – if they exist at all beyond a fuzzy notion of bombing the whole world into Islamic fundamentalism. At worst, we may suspect the likes of bin Laden of possessing no more idealism than a serial killer – indeed, he has said his aim is to kill Crusaders and Jews, which means everyone who is not of his narrow and primitive persuasion. If violence based on irrational hatred is the only motivation of the new breed of terrorists, force based on rough but accurate justice is their only language they will understand.

The Clinton administration deserves unequivocal support from civilized states. Unfortunately, there already are too many American friends looking the other way, or quibbling, or misinterpreting the message. Some are just mumbling semi-coherently. Italy's Prime Minister Romano Prodi, for example, while making the obligatory platitudes about fighting terrorism, had to add that Italy is "concerned that the dynamics of the events of recent days could spark a dangerous series of reactions and counterreactions" and hopes that the fight against terrorism "is accompanied by political solutions and by analysis not only of a military kind." If wishy-washy US allies think slapping bin Laden on the wrist with a cogent analysis of world events is a way to fight terrorism, they are dangerously mistaken.



## To tell a lie

DAVID WEINBERG

Standards of truthfulness in public life have been shot to damnation.

Lying has become the norm. Ethical society can only lament. Anywhere you turn, chicanery, deception and the outright lie are epidemic. Lies to ourselves, and lies to the public. Duplicitous has become so prevalent in public life that, well, we don't really expect anything else from our politicians.

Take Bill Clinton for example. No one is ever going to rank him as a great president in moral, historic terms like, say, George Washington ("I cannot tell a lie; this cherry tree I did fell").

Clinton has become so adept at self-deception and obfuscation, that dodging the truth and the crafting of evasive answers has become a way of life. He has danced his way around problems for years – from Jennifer Flowers to the Vietnam draft, from Whitewater to social welfare policy, from marijuana use to "inappropriate" moments with Monica.

Clinton's continuing lame excuses are cause for one major headache, which I guess is what he intends. He wants us to tire of the Monica story and "move on." We're supposed to forgive the leaviness, overlook the immorality, disregard the shame brought to the presidency, and limp forward, with a president whose every move now carries sexual connotations and is fertile, fertile material for late-night television comedians.

We all know about "the big lie" – a falsehood repeated so often that it becomes common wisdom and generally accepted truth. Here's two current political examples: that the US and the UN are "containing Iraq," and that Yasser Arafat's PA is living up to its Oslo treaty commitments.

Madeline Albright can write in *The New York Times* that "the US will stand firm on Iraq no matter what" and that "Saddam Hussein

can't break out of his cage."

But the reality is that the Iraqi dictator remains in power, thumbs his nose at international inspection regimes and continues to rebuild his non-conventional arsenal. Albright is left to fool herself into believing that Washington is dealing effectively with Saddam and the task of convincing us of this fiction.

It's amazing to me that we're

**We have become desensitized to the decadence and corruption inherent in lying**

still bargaining among ourselves about how much more land should be turned over to the Palestinian Authority, because we have to "live up to our sacred obligations."

Over the four years since the Rabin-Arafat handshake, Arafat and the PA have violated virtually all their undertakings: to disarm and outlaw terrorist groups and extradite terrorists; to curtail anti-Israel and anti-Jewish propaganda; to end human rights abuses and ensure free speech; and to change the PLO covenant.

There's a big lie buried here, which pops up repeatedly in one form or another in Western newspaper editorials and columns: that Arafat is sticking with the peace process while Netanyahu is betraying it.

Russian conformity to Western standards of appropriate foreign policy behavior is another current lie. No one in Washington or other capitals wants to press President Boris Yeltsin to the wall, because

he's the best horse we've got running in the chaotic Russian polity. Unfortunately, that means overlooking renewed Russian meddling in Asian and Middle Eastern politics, along with dangerous Russian missile and military technology sales to radical actors like Iran.

And here's one final fabrication – a real whopper produced on behalf of world Jewry: that we are all one people. Step out of the Israeli pressure cooker for several weeks and spend some time with Jewish communities abroad. The visit will be sure to dispel any such ridiculous notions of unified peoplehood.

Most Jews abroad, not to mention insular groups at home like the B'nai B'rith, live lives that are wholly disconnected from our Israeli reality, with value systems and concerns radically foreign to ours.

Pretensions of unity are silly. There's lots of concern out there for Israel, but it is of the type one has for an old high school acquaintance who has gotten into trouble. Task, task, how terrible.

We lie to ourselves in believing that Israel and Diaspora Jews truly share, any longer, a common destiny. The net result of all this fibbing, falsifying, artifice and deceit and that we are becoming desensitized to the decadence and corruption inherent in lying. Clinton has anesthetized us all. If the president of the United States can lie so baldly – when neither national security nor urgent public need required it – why should we expect better behavior from lesser public figures?

And thus, lying has become easy, accepted, commonplace. On Rosh Hodesh Elul, as we approach Rosh Hashana, perhaps it's time to demand a higher standard of our public servants and politicians. "For in truth and righteousness shall Zion be redeemed."

## Only in America

DANIEL BLOCH

The American system of government functions well under normal circumstances. But in times of crisis it has some problems that do not exist in most European systems.

President Clinton's current crisis could not have happened in France or England, for instance. In France, a sexual affair of a politician is nobody's business. In England, a bad leader can be removed in a few hours, as happened with the former iron lady, Margaret Thatcher.

When a leader is a liability he is out very quickly. You do not need a special prosecutor, with investigations dragging on for years, or a long impeachment process that paralyzes the government for ages.

The total separation of powers between the three branches of government is basically a good idea. Having checks and balances between the executive, legislative and judicial authorities strengthens people's rights against government. But there are times when it prevents decisiveness in the face of an imminent crisis.

The main cause is the separate elections of the chief executive and the parliamentary branch. When Congress cannot elect or depose the head of government and when there are no provisions for early elections in crisis situations, you get Watergate or Monicagate stalemates.

The world sees the greatest superpower occupied by the stains of one dress, unable to deal efficiently with the international crisis of terrorism or economic matters.

FROM day one, the Republicans did not like the Clinton agenda. They tried to destroy it, and when they realized they couldn't they tried to destroy the man with a politically motivated investigation handled by a politically motivated prosecutor.

When the original investigation

**Imagine if England in 1940 had been unable to get rid of Chamberlain and appoint Churchill within 24 hours**

of land deals in Arkansas did not deliver the goods, they moved to the personal sexual conduct of the president. Clinton, stupidly enough, fell into the trap.

Although most Americans still like him, many people there and around the world question his integrity, truthfulness and personal judgment.

The fight between the president and the Republicans can continue until the end of his term unless the Democrats win the coming Congressional elections or the Republicans master the two-thirds Senate majority needed for impeachment.

Meanwhile Washington won't be able to manage any meaningful domestic or international agenda. Terrorists and extremists will have a ball, while the great democracy is bleeding in trivial pursuit.

The only solution offered by the American system is resignation, sad and unjustified as it might be for a good president.

In the existing political situation that is the only way to return to the original agenda of the Clinton presidency, while giving Al Gore the chance to prove himself as a chief executive and enable the Democratic liberal-center to regain control of both houses of Congress by the year 2000.

From the Israeli perspective this is the only way to renew the momentum of the peace process, stalled from the American side by the new order of priorities in the White House and the lack of leadership, courage and talent from the State Department.

More important is the lesson derived from the failure of the American system in times of crisis. Those superficial Israeli academics, mainly from the legal field, manipulated by some shrewd politicians, such as Netanyahu, gave us a bad copy of it, not understanding that it was never fit for any other country.

Most other democratic systems prefer a stable government that enjoys parliamentary support when elected. And the system provides a mechanism for a change of government or early elections when the government, or its head, cannot function effectively or loses support and majority.

The American constitution does not provide a good answer. Fortunately for them, America can survive a long crisis. Israel cannot afford this luxury. Imagine England and the free world in 1940 unable to get rid of Chamberlain and appoint Churchill within 24 hours. For the US to change its

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### DEAD FISH

Sir, – I would like to bring to your readers notice the poor state of affairs at the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

First of all the continuing exhibitions have been continuing for more than half a year, and will carry on till November. They are nothing to rave about, and in fact when we visited the museum (the four of us paid over NIS 100 altogether), we felt cheated, and we were not the only ones who felt that way.

We saw only four or five people at the exhibition, and they all voiced disappointment. There was also a distinct smell of dead fish throughout the whole building. The rest of the collections were old stuff that has been hanging for years. There was also three gal-

leries closed for repairs. The Helena Rubinstein has a collection of drums, which was of no interest to anyone except those who like to make a lot of noise. If the museum has nothing to offer then maybe they should close down, or better still get new curators who know something about art.

It seems the museum has plenty of money to waste on rubbish like drums and dead fish, so why not find something for everyone.

I wonder what kind of rubbish they will think of putting in the new building going up behind the museum. Maybe a flea circus?

N. COHEN  
Tel Aviv.

### BURNING AT AUSCHWITZ

Sir, – I too witnessed people burning alive in Auschwitz.

We were taken from Hungary in May 1944. After being undressed and our heads shaved, we were taken to the shower room. On the way out of the shower room, which was on the other side of the entrance, I saw my own father and a little boy of around eight years old with his

black socks on being pushed towards an open huge fire, the little boy screaming and running away from the fumes. It didn't help.

When I was liberated and told people about this, no one wanted to believe me.

A. HIRST  
Jerusalem.

### BETRAYAL

Sir, – Comparisons of the Labor Party's recent trip to the US with Likud's efforts against the policies of the Labor government under Rabin and Peres are distorted.

Calling for more American pressure on Israel is not only against Bibi, but is aligned with the interests of the Arabs. It is an unprecedented betrayal.

DR. MOSHE DANN

Jerusalem.

### PEACE

BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS

Sir, – The contention made in your editorial "The PA cabinet shakedown" (August 11) that democracy is the best guarantor of peace sounds very nice, but does not apply to Arab nations.

The peace between Israel and Egypt and Jordan is a peace concluded between governments, while the majority of the population in both Egypt and Jordan are against it.

Dr. JACOB ROSIN

Netanya.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On August 23, 1933, *The Palestine Post* published a study, "A Short Dialogue on Palestine," by Mr. Herbert Sidebotham, which was distributed among the British Members of Parliament as a "purely British and non-Jewish point of view" on Palestine.

Five thousand people were present at the festive opening of

Prague.

50 years ago: On August 23, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the foreign minister, Mr. Moshe Shertok, cabled Count Bernadotte, president of the International Red Cross, that two Jewish soldiers had been decapitated while under IRC protection. A third soldier who died or was

"was for unexplained reasons buried there by the IRC."

25 years ago: On August 23, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the resignation of William Rogers and his replacement by Henry Kissinger, effective September 3, heralded a new era in Israel-US relations.

WE ARE told that the president



# Try a little tenderness

Increasing numbers of hotels have begun catering to female executives' special needs, Susan Spano reports

Kay Allison, who juggles jobs as an advertising executive and a single parent in Chicago, had a long, tough day several weeks ago - beginning with work, a pit stop at home to get ready for a business trip and a late flight to New York City.

When she reached the UN Plaza Hotel on the east side of Manhattan after midnight, she found chilled mineral water and fruit in her room. "It was the nicest thing that happened to me all day," she recalls.

A little tender loving care goes a long way, as all women business travelers know - which is why hotels are becoming more and more savvy about attracting women who travel for business, offering everything from bath crystals to parking-lot escorts. Little flourishes and absolute essentials.

As it turns out, guys like such features too, which is why Christopher J. McGinnis, author of *The Unofficial Business Traveler's Pocket Guide*, says that "Women are making the business travel experience better, more comfortable and more user-friendly for men."

Once upon a time, when businesswomen were a rarity on the road, there were hotels for women only and floors set aside for women. In the '60s, the Hilton chain offered "Lady Hilton" rooms, with makeup mirrors, skirt hangers and "feminine touches" in the decor.

These days, though, with women composing 40 percent of business travelers (as compared with 1% percent about 30 years ago) and the hotel industry booming, hotels are recognizing that it takes a lot more than "feminine touches" to attract women business travelers.

To figure out what women want, chains such as Wyndham, Westin, Hyatt, Crowne Plaza and Swissotel are mounting studies and forming advisory panels of female executives.

A recent Crowne Plaza survey found that women choose luxury lodgings slightly more often than men and that their favorite cities for business travel are San Francisco, Washington, D.C., New York, Chicago and Boston (in that order). They're much less likely to schedule a business trip on their wedding anniversary than men are, according to a Hyatt study.

Wyndham's initiative includes a Web site with travel tips for



MEIR ROMAN © 98

women: grants for further research on the subject; and 60 intimate, full-service Garden Hotels, with doors locked to street traffic at 11 p.m. and quiet library areas off the lobby where women may do business more comfortably than in their rooms or smoky bars.

Recently, I conducted my own little survey and found that the accommodation priorities of women business travelers fall into the following general categories:

- Security: Eighty percent of women business travelers put this at the top of their list, according to a recent Pennsylvania State University study. Women look for hotels with secured, brightly lighted parking garages and closely monitored lobbies, where front desk clerks assign them rooms fairly near elevators (to avoid

long, lonely walks down the hall) and never say their room numbers out loud, in earshot of potential intruders.

Budgetel Inns provide a brochure titled *Tips for Today's Woman Traveler*, including such common-sense safety measures as never opening your door without calling the front desk to confirm the identity of your visitor. A few more pieces of safety advice: Leave the "Do Not Disturb" sign on your door (calling housekeeping when you want your room cleaned), and request rooms on floors three through seven (because burglars favor lower levels, and firefighting equipment doesn't always reach above the seventh floor).

- Business facilities: In this regard, women are no different from men. They want all the technology necessary to survive and excel in the work environment. According to Marlene Charron, vice president of the Orange County, Calif., chapter of Women in Business, these include big desks with good lighting, nearby electrical outlets, a phone jack for computer modems and a telephone (so you don't have to make business calls at a night stand).

A business center with copying and computing services is a plus, as is a lounge area for impromptu meetings. In London, my sister does business in the tearoom at the intimate Basil Street Hotel, home of the elegant women-only Parrot Club.

• Health concerns: Women know that on the road, it's all too easy to eat unwisely and skip the exercise. For this reason, they've spurred the

drive to add health-conscious choices to room-service menus and in-room mini-bars. Many women choose lodging based on fitness facilities (which should have attendants) and are happy to find hotels, such as the Alexis and the Vintage Park in Seattle, that provide jogging partners. Spa services are available in many big chain hotels and at intimate places such as San Francisco's 20-room Nob Hill Lambourne, a favorite with women travelers.

• Children's programs: These days 19% of business trips include kids. As a result, moms (and dads) need access to baby-sitting services, food options for kids, pager rentals, children's videos and other perks for little ones. Many major chains, such as Westin, Inter-Continental and Budgetel, have instituted programs to help parents cope and kids have fun.

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• Amenities: The short list includes a blow dryer, an iron and ironing board, good lighting and a big counter in the bathroom for makeup application, plenty of skirt and padded hangers, a full-length mirror, a robe, nice stationery, voice mail, lights in the closet (so you don't end up wearing one black pump and one navy) and all those wonderful free toiletries.

Wyndham Hotels & Resorts provide shampoo, hair conditioner and lotion from Bath & Body Works, and at the Swissotel chain you can get pantyhose and feminine hygiene products 24 hours a day.

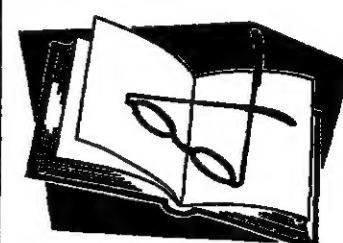
Life is hard enough when you're on the road. In fact, the Hyatt study suggests that it's harder for women than men, partly because women are more likely to worry about obligations left behind and work getting done back at the office. So while you're meeting deadlines, landing new accounts, attending conferences, crunching numbers and returning urgent phone calls, the very least a hotel can do is get you a new pair of pantyhose.

The Wyndham Hotels & Resorts Web site is at <http://www.womenbusinesstravelers.com>. Delta Airlines and American Express also have a Web site for female travelers at <http://www.delta-air.com/women>.

The *Unofficial Business Traveler's Pocket Guide* by Christopher J. McGinnis (McGraw-Hill, \$10.95) is due in bookstores this month. (Los Angeles Times)

## Unique ways of speaking

Book Review



By Richard M. Sudhalter

*Semaphore*, by G.W. Hawkes (MacMurray and Beck, \$17, 223 pp.)

The ability to speak seems the most readily taken for granted of our natural capacities. Speech is immediate, after all, expressive where hearing and vision are receptive.

The sighted, moreover, can conceptualize blindness; the hypothetical "what if I were deaf" hardly overextends imagination's reach.

But to see and hear, and not be able to talk? The very thought looses a small, incipient terror. To borrow the imperative side of Roy A. Gallant's landmark 1969 study, Man must speak.

Joseph, the 11-year-old central figure in G. W. Hawkes' *Semaphore*, is mute, though for no discernible physical reason. His vision, intact, incorporates frequent and fitful glimpses of the future: his six-year-old sister's drowning, his parents' slow decay, his own marriage and its consequences. Yet he chooses his communications carefully, often disclosing far less than he knows.

An intriguing premise. But then, Hawkes, whose short fiction has appeared in *Atlantic* and other major periodicals, seems at home with intriguing premises. His *Silveryer*, published simultaneously with *Semaphore*, parses the multilayered friendship of two men who have spent decades in the New Mexico desert, living and working side by side on an assignment they know to be fraudulent.

Not much "happens" in either novel, at least in any physical or external sense. The substance of *Semaphore* is Joseph's carefully measured communication with his parents; with an intuitively kindly neighbor; with a solicitous, though often obtuse, doctor, even with the woman who will become his wife.

Hawkes is fascinated with communication, the levels on which it functions and the often startling forms it takes. Tormented by the image of his sister's impending death, Joseph commandeers an earth-moving machine and, in what may be an act of anticipatory vengeance, drives it into a neighbor's swimming pool, the very place where, soon enough, she will drown.

But even here, communication goes awry. His intention was only to dump earth back into the pool, not wreck the vehicle. And, worse yet, he seems to have settled his score with the wrong hole in the ground.

Hawkes is skillful in using shifts of tense and person to differentiate time and place in Joseph's inner vision.

Yet, overall, *Semaphore*'s effect is of a vessel rather too slender for its subject matter. Too much is implied, unrealized, for example, in the three-way interaction of mother, father and son; other, enticing characters seem little more than preliminary sketches, as if intended for later and fuller treatment.

The language, by contrast, occasionally seems overloaded with metaphor. "At dawn," says one passage, "a circle of yellow machines unwound like metal thread from an invisible spool and darted or lumbered, each to its task, into Joseph's birthright. He clasped his hands over his ears against the labored coughs and metal-shearing screams of those tracked tons, and against the clouds of dirt that hummed and shimmered with the invisible heat of giant insect wings, and against the gunshots of felled trees."

Such saturation is jarring. The jump-cut flashes forward and back, the layering of images in Joseph's mind, seem to demand language of transparent, even austere, clarity.

Still, Hawkes is a watcher and a listener, for whom detail, whether individual or aggregate, confers meaning. Like his Joseph, he finds unusual, sometimes unique ways of speaking, and herein lies his - and his book's - true strength. (The Baltimore Sun)

## An electric car is only as good as its recharger

Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

It's a case of which comes first: the chicken or the egg, and it is one of the most important reasons for the lag in mass production of emission-free electronically-powered vehicles.

Critics of the automotive industry are happy to write off the whole affair as a case of "Detroit is just dragging its feet," but, in fact, today Detroit is ahead of the market. The problem is not the production of efficient electronically powered vehicles, but of the necessary infrastructure needed to maintain them, in particular easily available recharging facilities.

Vehicle batteries must be recharged, just as gasoline-fed



Car companies can produce high-quality electric vehicles like Chrysler's EPIC, above, but they won't sell them without abundant recharging stations. (AP)

engines need the tank refilled. But while gas stations abound throughout the US and the industrialized world, battery recharging stations are rare. In many places there are no stations at all, and where they

do exist they are either inconvenient or unavailable.

Recharging stations cost between \$2,000 and \$4,000 for a four vehicle setup. But, for electrically powered vehicles to succeed, such

facilities must be built at motels, hotels, roadside restaurants, office buildings and malls. Unfortunately, most of these facilities are in private hands and the owners are not willing to invest in recharging sta-

tions until there are enough vehicles around to assure them that the station will pay for itself.

By the same token, automotive dealers are not going to sell electric-powered vehicles while there are no recharging facilities. There are already some very good electric vehicles in production, but sales are confined to specific areas where the needed infrastructure exists.

Thus, Chrysler's EPIC, a seven-passenger minivan rated by automotive experts as the best of its kind, will go on sale next month only in New York and California. The GM S-10 three-passenger compact pickup is for sale only to owners of fleets of vehicles who own the service facility.

There is also the Honda EV plus, a four-passenger car rated as the best compact but available only on lease in California. And the Toyota RAV 4, a five-passenger sport utility vehicle, also rated best of its kind, but is for sale only to owners of fleets.

So the cars are there; more than a dozen types are in production. But until something is done to break this deadlock, the public will have to long wait for access to these non-polluting, efficient vehicles.

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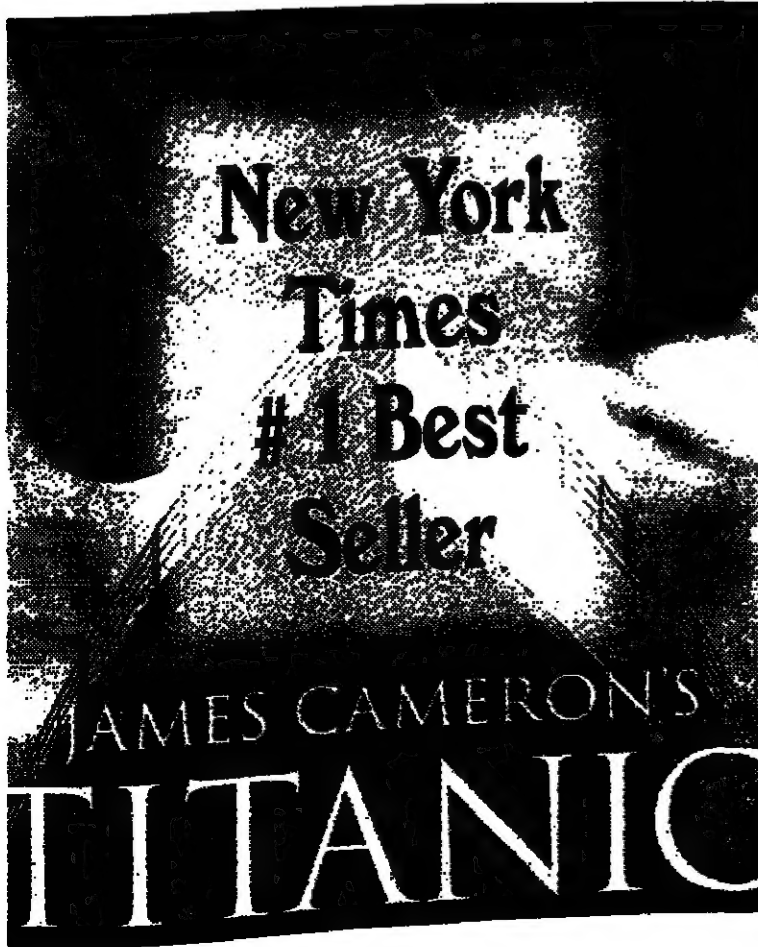
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## Brave new electronic world

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

The brave new world is on its way, blessed (but some may think cursed) by the latest in digital communications. Westerners will increasingly be able to do their errands from the comfort of their homes - shopping by clicking on a computer mouse, conversing and doing business with others via an ISDN videophone and even turning on the home cooling system, washing machine or the oven with electronic instructions.

These telecommunication advances that are now just becoming available are displayed at Bezeq's Mercat Hamhasha (Demonstration Center) on Tel Aviv's Rehov Weizmann.

The center, launched in 1993 as a showcase for foreign visitors and local business people, advertisers and decision-makers, now gets about 3,000 visitors a year, and Bezeq is seriously considering a much larger demonstration center for the general public.

Windowless, but designed with

mirrors, glass and modern lighting, the center has a large circular room with a variety of computerized equipment, flood lights, display screens and niches with doors that open and close automatically to show displays that twirl around.

Sitting in movie-house chairs, viewers are presented with a multimedia show that bounces from one screen to another, illuminating real-life peripheral equipment along the way.

Dudu Danino, the center's director of marketing, says that the show is changed constantly to ensure nothing becomes outdated. In one of the multimedia shows, a young executive named Mr. Israel is shown consulting his home computer screen to see how his stocks are doing on the Japanese bourse. Overjoyed that his portfolio has done well, he sells some shares and invites his wife to celebrate over dinner in a restaurant.

She clicks on her electronic diary and notes that she's free that night. So Mr. Israel clicks on his computer and reserves a table at

their favorite eating place. He swipes a smart card through a reader and automatically pays for the meal in advance.

Driving to work in his car, he gets an urgent call from a business contact, who wants to send him a document and can't wait until our hero reaches his office. No sweat: He has a fax in his car, and reads the document at the next red light.

Mr. and Mrs. Israel work long hours and naturally want to know what their children are doing when they return from school. They again turn to the videophone, which has a camera focused on the living-room couch in front of the TV. Sure enough, the kids are there, doing their homework in front of the tube. Since the ISDN line is two-way, the children are able to complain that they're hungry. No problem, they're told. Just order a pizza.

They do, via the Internet, and a delivery man zooms over on his motorcycle with a sizzling pie.

Bezeq has installed nearly 20,000 ISDN lines during the past year - 80% of them in commercial

premises and the rest in homes. But by 2005, the company expects that ISDN lines will be the standard cables installed in homes, completely replacing ordinary phone lines.

Not only are ISDN lines four times faster than a conventional phone line, they are broad-banded, accommodating up to two phone lines and six other types of peripheral equipment (faxes, computer communications, video) simultaneously.

Businesses can hold cheap videoconferences with clients abroad, reducing the need for expensive travel. As shown in the multimedia show about Mr. Israel, ISDN customers can actually sign contracts and work jointly on a file on the computer with someone who's far away.

This new technology is perfect for telemedicine: Doctors are consulted about patients as scans, records, sounds and a view of the actual patient are presented to them over their computer screens.

A "super converter" device - a



Education Minister Yitzhak Levy is all ears as he takes part in a videoconference at Bezeq's Demonstration Center.

metal box with a lot of sockets for connecting wires - enables owners of conventional and ISDN-compatible equipment to use them all, instead of buying new ones.

Although Bezeq has a monopoly on the installation of ISDN lines, it will lose it next year, when the Communications Ministry sees to it that services involving basic

infrastructure are opened to competition. The public telecommunications company will then have to use all its wits to keep its customers.

## Climb aboard the Universal Serial Bus

By MICHAEL J. HENOWITZ

Take a look at the back of your computer some time; it can be pretty intimidating. I count no fewer than 13 cables protruding from mine - and naturally they're all tangled up in a clogged mess behind the machine.

Half the time, I can't remember which one goes where, and I plugged every one of them in myself.

Now I'll admit I'm a bit more wired than the average user. But I can certainly sympathize with the computer owner who wrote to say that he was confused by advertisements for gadgets that are supposed to plug into various ports on the back of his machine.

"I was looking at video cameras," he said, "and I found a model I liked that came in two different versions - one that plugs into your printer port and one for the USB port (whatever that is)."

"Which one is better? If I use the one that plugs into the printer port, can I still use my printer? And how do I even know if I have a USB?"



The innards and back of a computer are confusing, but it pays to know a bit about all those mysterious plugs and receptacles - like the USB port, a one-size-fits-all connection between your computer and external devices.

Good questions all. And in order to make an intelligent buying decision, it pays to know a little bit about those mysterious plugs and receptacles on the back of your PC.

By itself, your computer is no more than an expensive paperweight. It must have some way to communicate with printers, modems, scanners, cameras, monitors, disk drives and - ultimately - with you.

The ports on the back of your PC are paths to various circuits in your computer that control all these gadgets. They come in various shapes and use different types of cables and connectors because they handle data in different ways.

The most overworked port on most systems is the parallel port, which was once known as the printer port before people started plugging other gadgets into it. You can tell a parallel port because it has 25 holes in two rows.

The parallel port gets its name from the way it handles data. When you send information to a printer, it travels in bytes, which consist of eight digital ones and zeros (known in the trade as bits). The parallel port uses eight wires (one to handle each bit), so that the entire byte arrives at its destination at the same time.

This is fast and efficient, but because electrons are unruly, the bits get out of synch over long dis-

tances. So parallel port communications are generally limited to five meters - even less with some devices. While it was originally designed primarily for one-way communications, a parallel port can pass data to and from a computer.

In the last four or five years, computer makers have enhanced this capability, and now parallel ports are also used to hook up high-capacity removable drives, as well as scanners and video cameras that once required separate controller boards.

The problem is that most PCs have only one parallel port. To be sure, removable drives and scanners have pass-through capability - you plug the drive into your parallel port and your printer into a port on the drive. The hardware figures out when you're communicating with which device.

But some of today's advanced printers - which use two-way communications to tell you when there's a paper jam or your ink cartridge is running low - don't like sharing a parallel port. Some parallel port video cameras won't share at all - to use the camera, you have to unplug the printer.

This isn't a fatal flaw if you can reach your cables without doing a

contortionist act, but it's annoying. In any case, there was certainly no way you can hook up a removable drive, scanner, camera and printer to the same parallel port and expect any of them to work properly.

ENTER the Universal Serial Bus. This circuitry, which began to appear on computers about two years ago, was designed as a one-size-fits-all connection between your computer and external devices.

With one or two high-speed USB ports (flat receptacles less than a centimeter long), your computer should be able to control monitors, scanners, drives, cameras, keyboards and just about anything else you want to plug in.

USB devices are designed for "daisy chaining," which means that you can plug a USB monitor into your computer, and then plug a printer into a port on the monitor, and then a scanner into a port on your printer, and so on down the line.

You'll also be able to buy a relatively inexpensive USB "hub," a box that plugs into your computer's USB port and allows you to attach a half dozen other USB

devices - a much neater solution than a daisy chain.

With Apple moving to the USB on its new iMac computer, the technology makes it possible for Macs and PCs to use the same equipment.

Unfortunately, USB technology has been tough for manufacturers to master, and we're just starting to see USB printers, monitors, cameras and scanners on store shelves.

There's also a software issue. Your computer has to know how to access a USB device, and Windows 95 required modifications to make the USB port work. Even then, it wasn't very reliable. Windows 98 is the first version of the operating system to have USB support built in.

After I installed Windows 98, I tried both parallel and USB versions of the Connectix QuickCam, a popular PC video camera. I found very little difference in speed or image quality, both of which should have been better with the USB model.

Even so, if you have a Windows 98 computer, or you're thinking of upgrading, USB peripherals are the wave of the future. They're certainly worth considering.

(The Baltimore Sun)

## Computer chips power a toy-making revolution

By JOHN M. MURRAY

A motor whirrs with the robotic dealer shuffles a deck to the right and starts dealing out another hand. When the players have their first cards, the robot sweeps back to its left and begins another pass - all without wires or human intervention.

This complex bit of engineering and programming is actually child's play. It was built primarily from Lego plastic bricks, and electronic components of a new toy construction kit called Lego Mindstorms Robotics Invention System.

It's also an example of one of the hottest trends in toy-making today: the growing use of high-tech components in traditional toys - like building blocks and dolls.

You're seeing a blurring of the lines between what is a software product and what is a toy product. Lego spokesman John Dixon, "is taking the real world and the virtual world."

Technology has long been a part of toy-making, of course. Model trains, remote-controlled cars, talking dolls and other classics have taken advantage of motors, lights, bells and whistles to capture the interest and imagination of children.

But what sets this latest generation of toys apart is their reliance on computer chips and other components to create toys that not only move, or make noise, but also interact with their environment.

With Lego Mindstorms, for example, children can build a small robot that drops sunglasses over its eyes when the light is shining and then takes those sunglasses when it goes dark. A separate project for the \$200 kit creates a motorized vehicle that backs up and moves in another direction whenever it bumps into something.

"We even like to think of this as a product that's beyond a toy - more of a technology tool for kids," said Linda Dalton, director of Lego Mindstorms.

"We're really trying to give kids the tools so they can create

the environment they want. This can really do what they have fantasized about in their minds."

FOR NOW, most of the high-tech toys seem to be relatively expensive - generally ranging from \$50 to \$200. But just as with personal computers, consumers say the price is likely to fall and performance is likely to improve over time.

In addition, the high-tech toys are providing manufacturers with a flashy new selling point for their products as the market looks ahead to the end of the storage recession.

Technology toys are already being marketed under the name of the American International Toy Fair, the industry's leading trade show.

Other members of the new generation of interactive toys include Microsoft's Activates dolls, including Barney the Dinosaur and, soon, Arthur and D.W. from the Mac Graw-Hill book and TV series. These dolls react to various kinds of touchpads and sequences by the child.

With optional add-on kits, the dolls can also interact with associated TV programs or software by singing and dancing.

Amazing Amby Toys Playmates Toys, Amazing Amby reacts to the time of day based on a clock that is embedded within the doll. She'll ask to get breakfast in the morning and to change into her pajamas at night.

Sensors in other parts of her body help the doll keep track of what clothes it is wearing, when it's "foot" is in water, and whether it has a long hairbrush.

Price in the US: \$200 to \$250.

Mr. Murrays' Toy from Disney and Mattel. The famous "dolly" doll can be programmed with stories, songs and games, as well as personal information about the child, such as birthday and hair color.

The best also interacts with a related software program. Price: about \$100.

"Taking Care of Baby from Toyific. This doll speaks up when she's tired, hungry or needs a diaper change. The doll also responds to actions by the child.

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"Taking Care of Baby from Toyific. This doll speaks up when she's tired, hungry or needs a diaper change. The doll also responds to actions by the child.



At last, diamond workers are getting a break with better equipment.

Diamond polishing is painstaking work. But now better diamond-polishing machines, with improved productivity and more protection for the worker, have been developed, based on research at the Haifa Technion.

More than 90 of the ergonomically designed workstations have been purchased by the local industry. They allow better

motorized movement, the ability to vacuum diamond dust, and protection against back and upper-extremity injuries.

Despite fluctuations in diamond exports, polished diamonds remain one of the leading export sectors here, with \$4.1 billion in sales abroad last year. Over 5,000 people work in the industry - 80% of them as diamond polishers.

## Taking the rougher edges out of diamond polishing

Although the profession demands much artistic skill, almost nothing was done over the years to improve working conditions. Equipment used here, in China, the US, Belgium, India and Thailand - where the industries are well developed - remained similar to what was used 300 years ago.

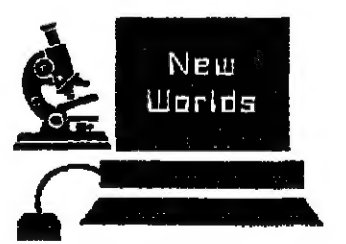
Then Prof. Yissachar Gilad, head of the work research lab at the Technion, decided to devote time to improving the situation.

He found that 64% of diamond polishers - even the younger ones - complained of pains in their shoulders and arms.

Using funding by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, he worked on isolating its causes. The result was a four-stage program for improving their working conditions.

The new workstation includes a better device for holding the diamond, a reduction in vibrations by the polishing disk that often caused loss of feeling in the fingers, better seating and a major reduction in diamond dust air pollution.

**TOPS IN COMPUTERS**  
Four high-school pupils and



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

graduates who excelled in computer sciences will represent Israel at the 10th International Computer Olympics in Portugal during the second week of September.

Uri Barkai of Ramat Hasharon, Eyal Rosenberg of Haifa, Yehav Nussbaum of Nahalal and Ro'i Maritan of Herzliya are the finalists of the Israeli Olympics, held for the third time.

Organized by the Israel Information Technology Association, the event has included 150 young candidates, with every senior high school entitled to send its four best computer pupils to the earlier stages. Arab and yeshiva high schools were well represented.

A recent survey of high-school

pupils found that 38% want to study computer sciences.

**MORE TECHIES NEEDED**  
Motorola Communications managing director Elisha Yanai has asked the educational system for an immediate increase in the number of high-school pupils studying scientific and technological subjects and then taking matriculation exams in these fields.

Today, only about 8,500 pupils take five-unit exams in mathematics, physics, electronics and computers, said Yanai, who is chairman of the Education 2000 Forum. This figure must double by the year 2000 if Israeli high-tech industries are to grow.

The forum is to meet tomorrow to discuss ways of promoting high-tech study among eighth and ninth graders.

Yanai said he was pleased, however, that during the last two years, the number of bachelor's degree graduates in engineering and computer sciences has increased significantly.

In addition, the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry has plans to refrain another 6,000 university and college graduates with a

BA in the exact professions; they will move into the electronics and programming fields. So far, 1,500 academics have already gone through this process.

The Council for Higher Education plans to increase the engineering, computer and electronics faculties in the universities and colleges so that there will be 4,900 BA graduates in the year 2003, compared to just 2,500 today. These plans will double academically trained manpower in high-tech professions from 30,000 to 60,000 over the next six years, Yanai said.

In November, the Education 2000 Forum will hold a national conference in Tel Aviv of 3,000 outstanding pupils in scientific and technological subjects, who will also be invited to attend the Telecom 98 exhibition at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds.

**SHOES THAT LAST**  
Tired of buying shoes that wear out after only months of use? It's a shame that the ancient American Indian (Native American) cobbler who lived in the Missouri River valley 9,000 years ago aren't still around. They knew how to make a good

shoe; some of the pieces of footwear are still around, incredibly well preserved.

The Journal Science has published a new analysis of artifacts found in a Missouri cave four decades ago that shows the area's prehistoric inhabitants to have been talented shoemakers. Some of the 35 sandals and moccasins discovered were fully intact more than 4,000 years after they were worn. University of Missouri anthropologist Michael O'Brien reports.

They reflect an amazing range of styles, including sling-back and slip-on designs that seem fashionable even today. The earliest ones were made of woven yucca plant fibers, while some of the newer moccasins were stitched together as recently as the 13th century CE from deer skin.

The shoes were dug out of the Arnold Research cave over several years, beginning in 1955, but scientists only recently determined their age using accelerator mass spectrometry - the technique that was used to date Italy's Shroud of Turin.

The method uses an atomic accelerator to strip carbon atoms off the fibers one atom at a time.

By JUDY SIE

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The Jerusalem Post Sunday, August 23, 1998

# Glad tidings for pregnant diabetics

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Insulin-dependent (Type I) diabetics are like tightrope walkers, balancing themselves between too much glucose and too much insulin. Any imbalance can lead to a fall – either fainting or loss of consciousness in the short term, and damage to vital organs in the long term.

Type-I diabetics suffer from an autoimmune disease in which the islands of Langerhans – vital cells in the pancreas – are attacked by the body's immune system and stop producing insulin, which metabolizes sugar. Testing their blood for glucose and injecting themselves with insulin several times a day is an annoying and painful chore, but a life-and-death matter. It's especially difficult for children, teenagers and pregnant women.

But now, with the availability of the insulin pump, keeping one's sugar and insulin in equilibrium is much easier, quicker and much less painful. Only about 100 Israelis – of the 10,000 Type-I diabetics in the country – are using insulin pumps. In fact, most of the rest of them have never heard of the device, and even if they had, it would be too expensive for many to purchase.

The insulin pump was invented about a decade ago and first used at Yale University in the US. It was about the size of a brick and weighed as much; it had to be plugged into an electrical socket each night to be recharged.

But thanks to digital electronics

and miniaturization, today there are insulin pumps the size of a beeper, worn under the patient's clothing, that use three tiny batteries lasting for two months. Today about 50,000 American diabetics, most with the Type-I form of the disease and the rest middle-aged people with the Type-II (non-insulin-dependent) form, use the pump, made by the California-based company MiniMed. Others use the competing Swiss brand, Tyco.

THE device is priced here at about \$2,700, and available upon recommendation by a diabetes specialist. Only 30 to 50 percent of the cost is borne by the health fund – even though improved insulin equilibrium greatly reduces the risk of hospitalization and the need for major medical care.

Now an obstetrician at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital with expertise in diabetes has apparently become the first in the country to fit his pregnant patients with the insulin pump.

Dr. Uriel Elchalal of the Ein Kerem hospital has so far put four women through the process of getting used to the device. Three of them have produced normal babies, while the fourth is in her seventh month of pregnancy.

Glucose/insulin imbalance can cause serious damage to the fetus from the earliest weeks of pregnancy, Elchalal says.

"It can result in malformation of the various organs and the skeleton, and even mental retardation. Thus keeping the pregnant diabetic under control is vital for the

health of both mother and baby." About 15 pregnant diabetics are referred to him each year.

After learning about the efficacy of the insulin pump and the great benefits it can offer pregnant women, Elchalal contacted Agentek, the Tel Aviv representative of MiniMed, which manufactures the most widely used and advanced insulin pumps.

The branch, located at the Atidim industrial park, provided a number of pumps at a discount, and a donation made it possible to lease them to suitable candidates. The health funds, says Agentek's Nitzana Engel, cover most (but not all) of the cost of the insulin and disposable equipment, which includes glucose testers, tubes, inserters, batteries and needles.

The MiniMed pump has a built-in display (so you can see figures even in the dark) and four buttons for moving through screens, changing parameters and adjusting values. The tiny pump is programmed to deliver a basal rate of insulin – a tiny amount issued continuously from the device in 1/10 unit increments.

The rate can be increased or decreased depending on the time of day, the patient's physical activity and how much and what he eats. Before each meal or snack, the user gives himself a specific "bonus dose" of insulin; this is based on the size of the meal, specifically the amount of carbohydrates.

Because insulin is taken with the food, timing of meals is not as important as it is with injections.

Meals can usually be delayed or even skipped without causing low blood sugar problems, allowing more normal daily activity.

The insulin is delivered by the pump through the infusion set, which attaches to it. It's a thin tube with a tiny, short cannula at the end. The cannula is inserted into tissue in the abdomen, the buttocks or thigh with a special tiny needle.

MiniMed's plastic inserter, called the Sof-set, puts the needle in place with barely a twinge.

The device is worn round the clock (except for showering and other activities, when the tube is disconnected from the pump by a twisting action) and replaced every two days, so that no infections develop.

IRIS (not her real name), in her 30s and with a 10-year-old son and seven-year-old daughter, suddenly contracted Type-I diabetes after her daughter was born. She is one of the four Jerusalem-area women who have been fitted with an insulin pump. Now in her seventh month of pregnancy, she is delighted with it.

"I had thought of not having another child because coping with insulin balance was so difficult," she recalls. But she and her husband – both university-trained professionals – wanted another baby and hoped the pregnancy would proceed well.

She was referred by Prof. Itamar Raz, head of the Israel Diabetes Association and a diabetes specialist at Hadassah, to Dr. Elchalal's high-risk pregnancy

unit. She started using the pump during the early stages of pregnancy, and all the many tests she has taken confirm that her fetus is completely normal.

She leased the device for \$100 a month, and also covers the NIS 300 a month (10% of the cost) for disposable equipment that her health fund, Meuhedet, doesn't cover. But the expense is worth it, says Iris, as she is in optimum equilibrium.

"It's almost like the natural condition of non-diabetics. But it requires regular supervision by a doctor and a dietician."

"The amazing thing is that I was a member of all conceivable diabetes organizations, but I had never heard of the pump until I met Dr. Elchalal," Iris says.

It's also unknown to many physicians: When Iris was an inpatient at Hadassah, the doctors and nurses came over to ask what the device was.

The Hadassah physician says he expects insulin pumps will eventually become standard equipment for diabetics of all ages, not only those with Type I, but also those with Type II, whose pancreases are not destroyed but whose sugar metabolism is not balanced.

MiniMed's founder and chief executive officer, Alfred Mann, envisions the creation of an "artificial pancreas" as his company's ultimate mission.

Such a link between insulin pumps and glucose sensors will, if successful, "allow people with diabetes to lead essentially normal lives."



An insulin pump, beeper-size and worn under clothing, makes coping with insulin balance a lot easier and pregnancy much more "natural" for diabetics. (Michael Margolis)

## Getting to be 100 – no big deal

By ROBIN NEHRMAN

Although no man can match Methuselah, or even Moses, for longevity, the number of centenarians is growing in developed countries around the world.

Christian Mortensen, for example, died in San Rafael, California,

a few months ago at the age of 115, the oldest man whose age has been fully verified. Women live even longer; 122-year-old Frenchwoman Jeanne Calment died last year.

In his last few years, "he was blind and could no longer walk on his own, but he was mentally aware

and could carry on an intelligent conversation almost until the end," wrote John Wilmoth, a demographer researcher at the University of California at Berkeley who visited Mortensen regularly.

"He always preferred a vegetarian diet and said the key to longevity is to live a good, clean life."

Before the 1800s, a person who lived to be more than 100 years old was an anomaly, if not an outright fantasy. But in modern times, Mortensen and Calment form the leading edge of what should be a tidal wave of bona fide centenarians. The phenomenon has taken demographers and biologists by surprise and beguiled them with its implications about life expectancy and the frontiers of human survival.

Until recently, a tenet of gerontological research had been that the human life span has some fixed biological limit. But as life expectancy worldwide grows, that tenet is cracking. Somewhere in the centenarian phenomenon lies the fabled key to longevity. Practitioners of a new and hybrid discipline called biodemographics are keen to find that key within the statistics on the world's oldest old.

ARMED with probability equations and estimates of the world population going back to the Stone Age, biodemographers dismiss the possibility that there were centenarians anywhere in the world before 1800.

Yet according to a projection by James W. Vaupel of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany, some 100,000 centenarians worldwide are expected to welcome the year 2000.

That figure is accepted by many of his peers. In fact, so many people are living well past 100 that a new term – "supercentenarians" – has been coined for those older than 110. With their numbers increasing at about eight percent per year on average, the centenarian pace is astounding by any

demographer's measurement. "More like an inflation rate," comments Vaupel.

In trying to determine why so many people are now becoming centenarians, looking at just one person's survival cannot provide the answers.

Mortensen was an immigrant from Denmark who arrived on Ellis Island in 1903 at the age of 21. For most of this century, Scandinavia has produced a large percentage of centenarians, yet the US currently leads the world in the rate of survival of its citizens over the age of 80.

Did Mortensen benefit more from being Danish or from living to old age in California? Or was it his own philosophy, "Don't be a meat hog" and "Take things in moderation," that saw him through?

Is there really a "secret" to long life?

Bernard Jeune, a biodemographer at Denmark's Odense University, explains in his book *Exceptional Longevity From Prehistory to the Present*, edited with Vaupel, that most literature on longevity and centenarians is based on the hypothesis of a "secret of longevity" that rests on four contentions: Maximum life span is fixed; longevity is genetically determined; centenarians have always existed; and centenarians are qualitatively different than the rest of the population.

Recent research has challenged all of these ideas.

The biodemographers use statistics rather than laboratory results to argue that the human life span is not fixed.

"If death rates at older ages were approaching a biological limit," writes Vaupel, then you would expect countries that already have low death rates for old people showing slower improvement in longevity than countries that still had high death rates for the elderly.

But, said Vaupel, the statistics show no connection between death rates and the rate of improvement. "I don't really believe there's a fixed limit," said Berkeley's Wilmoth. "At the same time, I don't expect people to live to 200 anytime soon."

A graph of the maximum age of death in Sweden over the last 130 years shows that it is going up one year every two decades. It now stands at 112.

"If we were achieving immortality," said Wilmoth, "it would go up one year every year."

But the extreme of the life span is being extended very slowly. "If Mortensen and Calment represent

the outer limit, then 20 years from now we may break that record by one year."

JEUNE, Wilmoth, Vaupel and others believe the current wave of centenarians are the product of an overall shift in the survival of the world's population.

More people are living to old age. The average life expectancy of people in developed countries in 1955 was the mid-sixties. Nowadays, people on average in developed countries live to their mid-seventies and are projected to live until their mid-eighties in the next century.

Most people in the Stone Age died in their twenties, and it would have been difficult if not impossible for anyone to reach 100 years, biodemographers reason. Verified centenarians only began appearing during the Industrial Revolution.

The population of 100-year-olds is growing, explained Vaupel, "in part because of the increase in births a century ago, the sharp decline in infant and childhood mortality... and the substantial decline in mortality from childhood up to age 80."

"Demographic analysis demonstrates, however, that by far the most important factor in the explosion of the centenarian population... has been the decline in mortality after age 80."

In the US, a person who reaches 80 now can expect to live on average for another nine years.

Additional evidence that the reach of the human life span can be extended comes from death rates for people at age 90 in the upper Midwest region of the US. They are likely to outlive 90-year-olds in Western Europe and Japan, according to figures quoted by Vaupel.

"Because the very old particularly benefit from medical care and [healthful] behavior, it is possible that the US advantage stems from better health conditions for the elderly," he speculated.

Improvement in survival beyond 80 took off just after 1950, said Vaupel. Penicillin and other antibiotics made a big difference. "Influenza and pneumonia used to be major killers of old people," he noted.

So where are all these centenarians found? They are not among the yogurt-eating people of the Caucasus or in the mountains of Kashmir.

"It's the countries and regions with the highest life expectancy that have the highest growth in centenarians," said Wilmoth.

(The Washington Post)

## Tongue scraping gets a boost

By ROBIN ESTHER



Sweeter breath in seconds

Forget the mouthwash and mints to get rid of bad breath. More and more people seem to be going gaga over the tongue scraper, a plastic implement with plenty of gag potential.

The scraper is a sort of cleaning tool for the tongue, mucking up icky bacteria. That's good, though what gets scraped out isn't pretty.

"It's startling," Dr. Marc Ehrlich says. "You think your mouth is fairly clean, then you get a kind of wipe this off and it looks like something you cough up when you've got a cold."

Tongue scrapers are not new. Dentists will tell you people in ancient Egypt, China and India were scraping their tongues long before someone coined the term halitosis, the clinical word for bad breath.

Somehow, the concept never really took off in the US; but recently a public increasingly concerned about banishing bacteria and more oral hygiene vigilance have been giving the scraper a boost.

In fact, tongue scraping has become the rage among Hollywood's elite.

"We're doing one right now," said Dr. Douglas Hauck, a Beverly Hills dentist who wouldn't divulge the client's name.

THE idea behind tongue scraping is simple. The bulk of oral bacteria, especially the bad-smelling sulfur compounds that can cause chronic bad breath,

reside on the tongue – particularly on the hard-to-reach back of the tongue.

"The tongue's like a shag carpet. It's got all these pits and fissures," said Brian Murray, a brand manager for BreathRx, a tongue scraper kit made by Discus Dental Inc. in Los Angeles.

Dentists have long encouraged patients to brush their tongues to reduce bacteria. Problem is, many people gag when they try to get the toothbrush way back there – if they can reach back there at all.

Long and thin, the tongue scrapers have plastic serrated edges that are designed to slide along the tongue, raking bacteria away. A few quick scrapes, in long motions from the back forward once or twice a day, is enough to keep bacteria in check. The result, dentists say, is better breath. And maybe better overall health.

Studies are now beginning to show that the health of the mouth can be related to the health of the rest of the body, said Dr. Matthew Messina, president-elect of the Cleveland Dental Society.

Some US dentists have begun peddling the products to their patients.

Ehrlich began dispensing scrapers to his Brookline clients a few weeks ago, complete with a demonstration from a hygienist. He sells a "tongue conditioning" gel that's promoted as a lubricant and bacteria-fighter for \$6.

Some of the products are available only through dentists. Others can be bought for a few dollars in drug stores.

But is tongue scraping – "tongue deplucking" in industry terms – really necessary? Opinions among dentists are varied.

Some see it as purely cosmetic, a boost for freshening breath. After all, Americans already spend an estimated \$1 billion on over-the-counter breath products.

Others said they would like to see scraping become a daily ritual, an addition to the one-two punch of brushing and flossing. "I really feel we're just raising oral hygiene to another level," said Dr. Richard Price, a Newton dentist, professor at Boston University's dental school and spokesman for the American Dental Association.

"And why not? It takes just a second." (Associated Press)

## Beduin sheikhs study latest reproductive medical techniques

Prostate glands, infertility and uterine disorders are not generally the subject of Moslem religious leaders' discourse.

But Ben-Gurion University's medical school and Soroka Hospital in Beersheba – who deal with large numbers of Beduin – felt they had to discuss these sensitive medical matters with their sheikhs.

This is because before undergoing in-vitro fertilization, genetic diagnosis, abortions or other procedures, Beduin patients usually consult with their

religious leaders.

So the institutions recently organized the country's first-ever enrichment courses on medical subjects for 30 Moslem religious leaders in the Negev. The aim was to give them basic understanding of issues in medical ethics and the latest medical techniques.

The 10-session course for muzzezins, imams and sheikhs included lectures on early diagnosis of genetic diseases, which are common among the Beduin population because of inbreeding (marriage

between close relatives) in the community. They also heard about early detection of breast and prostate cancers. The doctors who spoke before the group, including the courses' initiator, Dr. Rania Agabaria, stressed the danger of quacks who often deal with medical problems among Beduin, using fortune telling, magic and ceremonies to chase away demons.

Agabaria noted that over 100,000 Beduin live in the Negev and get tertiary medical care at Soroka. The participants were so enthusi-

Health Scan



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

astic and full of questions, according to Agabaria, that BGU may orga-

nize similar courses for Moslem leaders in other parts of the country.

**WOMEN'S CHOLESTEROL** Most pharmaceuticals are tested on men, as researchers fear women's hormones could affect the results of clinical trials, or that the drugs could endanger fetuses in the women who are pregnant.

But now, a drug for reducing blood cholesterol levels, pravastatin, has been shown in studies to cut by 50% the danger of a recurrent heart attack, stroke or problems

in women who have had a first coronary infarction.

An article in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* said that the drug, manufactured by Bristol-Myers-Squibb and sold here by Pharmabest under the commercial name Lipidal, is very beneficial for such high-risk women.

Nearly 600 women who had a heart attack during the previous two years took part in the five-year study; those taking the drug had a 56% lower risk for another heart attack and stroke, and were 46%

less likely to need angioplasty or coronary bypass compared to those who didn't take the medication. In all Western countries, 50% of all women's deaths are due to heart and vascular diseases.

For years, women with heart disease have been treated less aggressively than men, says Rubinstein, head of a unit at Ichilov Hospital. Pravastatin trials should be treated, reduce the risk attack or stroke



ISRAELI SHARES  
ABROAD

LATE CHANGES

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## FUTURES, OPTIONS, STOCKS, BONDS AND MUTUAL FUNDS

Amrad Paper Mills	37.75	-1
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## TELEPHONE

Amrad Paper Mills	37.75	-1
Amrad Paper Mills	37.75	-1
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## E-MAIL

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## US stocks rebound, but Dow still down

## Wall Street

Stocks tumbled Friday, with the Dow Jones industrial average falling as much as 283 points at midday as investors reacted to turmoil in financial markets and new political tensions around the world.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished the day down 77.76, or 0.9 percent, at 8,533.65, recovering from its earlier lows but still extending the 103-point loss from the previous two days.

Including Friday's losses, the blue-chip barometer is now down about 8.6% from its record high of 9,337.97 on July 17.

Broad-market indicators also fell. Among the hardest hit was the Nasdaq composite index, which was hurt by a selloff in technology stocks.

An indication of the nervousness on world financial markets is the rush to buy U.S. Treasury bonds, a traditional haven in times of unrest. Yields on 30-year Treasury bonds, which go down as prices go up, dropped below 5.5% for the first time in the two decades such bonds have been issued.

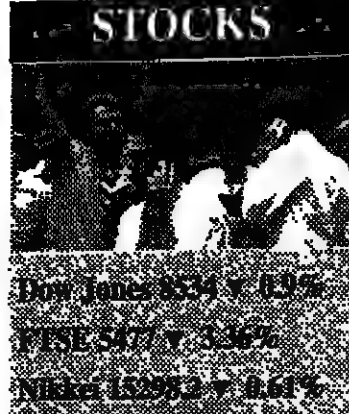
Stocks fell following a steep decline in share prices in overseas. Investors worry that financial troubles in Russia, Asia and Latin America will hurt the U.S. economy and cut into corporate profits in coming months.

Adding to Friday's volatility was concerns over the fallout from Thursday's U.S. military air strikes in Afghanistan and Sudan. Russian president Boris Yeltsin and several Muslim nations denounced the strikes.

Financial stocks, which have considerable exposure to the various fiscal crises overseas, fell sharply. J.P. Morgan, American Express and Travelers Group were all down for the day.

The Standard and Poor's 500 fell 8.83 to 1,082.77, and the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index fell 32.72 to 1,799.73.

The NYSE composite index fell



A person looks at a computer screen in a stock exchange setting.

540 to 540.82, and the American Stock Exchange composite index fell to 11.72 to 651.88. (AP)

## Europe

European stocks suffered their most dramatic losses in five weeks of turmoil on Friday, led by falls of more than 5% in Germany and Spain, as worries over the Russian economic crisis deepened and spread to Latin America.

Comments by the Russian prime minister that the country's problems were only just beginning and speculation about a devaluation of the Venezuelan bolivar sent investors fleeing to the safety of bonds, pushing European futures contracts to record highs and yields in the cash markets to all-time lows.

"Every time we think things are settling down again, something is hit by something else... First it was Asia, then Russia and now the worry is spreading to South America," said Steve Wright, UK equity strategist at CSFB.

A 2% fall in the Dow Jones Industrials, a 2.8 percent drop in Hong Kong and plummeting Latin American stocks added to a catalogue of woes for European equities, which hit their lowest levels in four months in Germany and five months in Spain.

In London, the FTSE 100 closed

## Asia

Most Asian markets ended the week sharply lower Friday, with the key index in Kuala Lumpur tumbling nearly 8% as investors took profits following sharp gains in the past two days.

The Malaysian market's key Composite Index plummeted 26.98 points, or 7.7%, to close at 324.06. The index had surged 11% in the past two days.

Dealers said the surge was largely speculative, with short-term investors jumping into the market following the Malaysian government announcement that it was considering intervening in the market to prop up share prices.

On Thursday, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahatir bin Mohamad urged Malaysians to be prepared when the government introduces the new measures, which he didn't elaborate.

Share prices also tumbled in Hong Kong on profit-taking. The Hang Seng index, the Hong Kong market's main indicator of blue chips, fell 214.92 points, or 2.8%, closing at 7,527.61. On Thursday, the index had gained 1.6%.

Brokers attributed the slump to profit-taking following recent sharp gains in shares after the government intervened to prop up the market.

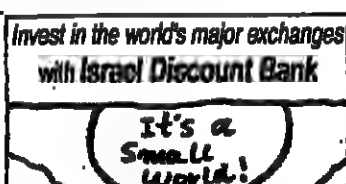
In Tokyo, share prices fell as Japan's third-largest corporate failure - trading firm Okura and Co. - this year raised fears about the health of the economy.

The benchmark 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average shed 93.21 points, or 0.61%, to close at 15,298.20 points. On Thursday, the average fell 14.93 points, or 0.10%. (AP, Reuters)

## Dollar mixed amid stock rout

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The dollar was mixed against major currencies Friday as Russia's political and economic crisis deepened and world-wide stock markets tumbled. But losses were limited as flight-to-quality buying in US Treasuries gave some foundation to the greenback.

Stock weakness was exacerbated Friday as jitters in emerging markets worsened, with negative sentiments stemming from an attack by Russia's lower house of parliament on President Boris Yeltsin and persistent expectations that Venezuela will devalue its currency.



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## ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patish (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.000
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.640	5.820
German mark (DM 200,000)	5.180	5.280	5.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.000	0.100	0.580
Yen (100 million yen)	-	-	-

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (21.8.98)

\*These rates vary according to bank. \*\*Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS

Buy Sell

Banknotes

Buy Sell

Rep. Rates\*

Currency basket

U.S. dollar

German mark

Pound sterling

French franc

Japanese yen (100)

Dutch florin

Swiss franc

Swedish krona

Norwegian krona

Denmark krona

Finland mark

Canadian dollar

Australian dollar

S. African rand

Belgian franc



# Sosa cracks 49th as Cubs rally past Giants

## McGwire reaches 50 HRs in three straight years

CHICAGO (AP) — Sammy Sosa hit his 49th home run Friday and the Chicago Cubs rallied for two runs in the bottom of the ninth inning to beat the San Francisco Giants 6-5.

Trailing 5-4 in the bottom of the ninth, Sosa singled with one out off Robb Nen (7-4) and Mark Grace walked. Henry Rodriguez then lofted a broken bat single to right to drive in Sosa and tie the game.

Jose Hernandez singled down the right-field line over a drawn in infield as Nen blew his fourth save in 35 opportunities.

Sosa moved within two of Mark McGwire's major league home run lead. His 49 homers tie Andrew Dawson for second most in club history, a mark Dawson set in 1987.

Kerry Wood, without a victory in four starts since July 31, allowed five hits and three runs in six innings and gave up Jeff Kent's two-run homer in the sixth, his 21st.

Braves 5, Padres 4  
John Smoltz survived a shaky beginning for his seventh straight win and host Atlanta maintained its exclusive hold on the top record in the NL.

The Braves pushed their lead over the Padres back to two games in a race that could be significant in October. For the first time, the team with the best record is assured of home-field advantage throughout the league playoffs.

Cardinals 10, Mets 5 (1st)

Mets 1, Cardinals 0 (2nd)

Mark McGwire did not get any closer to Roger Maris in this Shea Stadium doubleheader.

After getting a pinch-hit, RBI double in a 10-5 first game win over the New York Mets, McGwire struck out three times and walked as the St. Louis Cardinals lost the second game 1-0.

McGwire, who homered twice Wednesday and two more times in Thursday's doubleheader to reach 51, has 34 games remaining to reach Maris' record of 61.

With his 50th blast, he became the only player in major league history to hit 50 or more home runs in three consecutive years.

New York, which played seven games in a four-day span, dropped into a tie in the wild-card race with the Chicago Cubs.

Astros 5, Brewers 2  
Richard Hidalgo hit a two-run homer and Jeff Bagwell scored three times, leading Houston to an away win.

The NL Central-leading Astros won for the 15th time in 21 games. They have won seven of nine against Milwaukee this season.

Dodgers 5, Marlins 1  
Chan Ho Park pitched eight innings and Paul Mondesi hit a three-run homer for visiting Los Angeles.

Adrian Beltré drove in the Dodgers' first two runs with a single and a homer.

Pirates 14, Reds  
Jason Kendall and Al Martin each hit two-run homers as host Pittsburgh had their biggest offen-

sive game of the season.

Phillies 1, Diamondbacks 0  
Mark Portugal recorded his 100th career victory.

The 12-year veteran won for the first time at Veterans Stadium since he signed with the Phillies in 1997, a span of 10 starts. He missed most of last year because of elbow trouble.

Rockies 3, Expos 2  
Vince Castilla hit his 37th homer with two outs in the top of the ninth to lift Colorado.

Castilla homered off Ugueth Urbina (4-3) to send Montreal to its ninth loss in 11 games.

AMERICAN LEAGUE  
Yankees 5, Rangers 0  
David Wells pitched a six-hitter and Tino Martinez homered twice as visiting New York snapped a two-game losing streak.

Wells (16-2) finally solved the Rangers, who had rallied from nine- and three-run deficits to beat him this season. He struck out seven and walked one in his fourth shutout.

Wells, who entered with a 12.46 ERA against the Rangers this year, has won eight straight decisions. The Yankees, who have lost two in a row seven times this year, have lost three straight just once — the first three games of the season.

Chuck Knoblauch and Derek Jeter also homered for New York.

Knoblauch hit the third pitch from Esteban Loaiza (1-3) into the left-field seats for his 17th homer, the most by a Yankee second baseman since Joe Gordon hit 17 in 1943.

Martinez, who went 3-for-4, hit a solo homer in the fourth inning to make it 2-0 and give him 100 RBIs for the third consecutive season. He is the first Yankee to do it since Don Mattingly had at least



**AMAZIN' GRACE** — Cubs' Mark Grace is congratulated at home plate after scoring the winning run in the ninth inning to give Chicago a 6-5 triumph over the Giants. Sammy Sosa, who hit his 49th HR, is at right.

100 RBIs from 1984-87.

Red Sox 9, Twins 2  
Damon Buford and Nomar Garciaparra each hit three-run homers and Steve Avery pitched a season-high seven innings for visiting Boston.

Garciaparra went 3-for-5 with four RBIs and Mo Vaughn drove in two runs for the Red Sox. Four Twins pitchers helped Boston with eight walks and two wild pitches.

Blue Jays 9, Angels 4  
Carlos Delgado homered twice

and Jose Canseco hit a two-run shot to lead Toronto to an away win over Anaheim, who played the game under protest.

Chris Carpenter (9-6) won his third consecutive start, allowing two earned runs and five hits in seven innings.

After loading the bases with none out in the second inning, the Angels tied it 1-1 as Tim Salmon scored on shortstop Alex Gonzalez's one-out fielding error.

Gary DiSarcina followed with a fly to right that Shawn Green lost in the lights, allowing Jim Edmonds to come home with what the Angels thought was their second run. Carpenter backed up the plate on the wide throw by Green and threw to third for the force on Garret Anderson, who inexplicably broke back to second as Matt

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Walbeck retreated to first — where DiSarcina already was.

Third baseman Tony Fernandez, who took Carpenter's throw for the second out, relayed to second baseman Craig Grebeck for the inning-ending force. The umpires ruled that the run didn't count because both outs were recorded on force plays.

Angels manager Terry Collins argued with plate umpire Greg Kosc and crew chief Larry Barnett before announcing the protest.

Indians 6, Orioles 3  
Jaret Wright beat host Baltimore for the second time in five days and Cleveland took the luster off a big night for Cal Ripken.

Ripken grounded an opposite-field single to right in the seventh inning for his 2,849th career hit, eclipsing the Orioles franchise record held by Brooks Robinson. Ripken received a lengthy standing ovation from the sellout crowd of 48,374, the largest to attend a regular-season game in the seven-year history of Camden Yards.

Royals 6, Devil Rays 5 (11)  
Johnny Damon and Hal Morris both drove in runs in the top of the 11th inning for Kansas City.

Martiners 5, White Sox 4  
Russ Davis delivered an RBI double in the eighth inning as host Seattle rediscovered the longball and snapped a three-game skid.

Albert Belle hit his 38th home run for the White Sox, tying it in the seventh against Jeff Fassero.

Ken Griffey Jr. went 0-for-4 and remained stuck on 42 home runs. He has only one in his last 20 games, a stretch of 81 at-bats.

Athletics 4, Tigers 2  
Mike Oquist won for the first time in more than a month by pitching six strong innings as Oakland won at home.

Oquist (7-10) withstood solo homers by Tony Clark and Juan Encarnacion to snap a five-game losing streak.

First game  
St. Louis 010 014-0 11 0  
New York 000 000-0 10 0

Second game  
St. Louis 000 000-0 0 0  
New York 100 000-0 7 1

Los Angeles 000 000-0 10 0  
Pittsburgh 000 000-0 10 0

Arizona 000 000-0 0 0  
Philadelphia 000 000-0 0 0

San Diego 000 000-0 0 0  
Seattle 000 000-0 0 0

San Francisco 000 000-0 0 0  
Texas 000 000-0 0 0

Washington 000 000-0 0 0  
Boston 000 000-0 0 0

Chicago 000 000-0 0 0  
Cleveland 000 000-0 0 0

Colorado 000 000-0 0 0  
Detroit 000 000-0 0 0

Florida 000 000-0 0 0  
Houston 000 000-0 0 0

Los Angeles 000 000-0 0 0  
Milwaukee 000 000-0 0 0

Minnesota 000 000-0 0 0  
Montreal 000 000-0 0 0

New York 000 000-0 0 0  
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## CHARLTON

Continued from Page 16

Everton, another big club who struggled last season, also had a bad day. Their summer spending spree counted for little as Leicester cruised to a 2-0 home victory.

Chelsea also failed to shine, having most of the game but managing only a 1-1 home draw with Newcastle.

A Steve Stone goal gave promoted Nottingham Forest their first points of the season in a 1-0 home win over Coventry.

Derby against Wimbledon ended 0-0. Aston Villa play Middlesex today.

Scotland  
Celtic scored twice in the last 10 minutes to scrape a 2-1 victory over Dundee United in the premier league.

The champions looked on course for a third successive defeat when Robbie Winters put the visitors ahead after 31 minutes.

Premier League: Charlton 5, Southampton 0; Chelsea 1, Newcastle 1; Derby 0, Wimbledon 0; Arsenal 1, Nottingham 0; Sheffield Wednesday 1, West Ham 0; Manchester United 0, Preston 0.

First League  
P W D L F A Pts  
Charlton 2 1 0 0 5 0 4

Leicester 2 1 0 0 4 2 4  
Wimbledon 2 1 0 0 3 1 3

Arsenal 2 1 0 0 3 1 3  
Sheff Wed 2 1 0 0 2 2 2

Not Forest 2 1 0 0 2 2 2  
Derby 2 0 0 0 1 1 0

Nottingham 2 0 0 0 0 0 0  
Aston Villa 2 0 0 0 0 0 0

Blackburn 2 0 0 0 0 0 0  
Leeds 2 0 0 0 0 0 0

Middlesbrough 2 0 0 0 0 0 0  
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But last season's player of the year Craig Burley equalized in the 80th minute and 19-year-old debutant Mark Burchill grabbed the winner three minutes later.

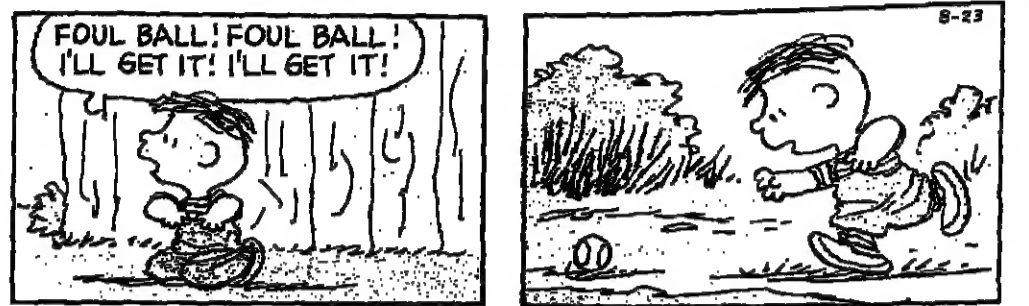
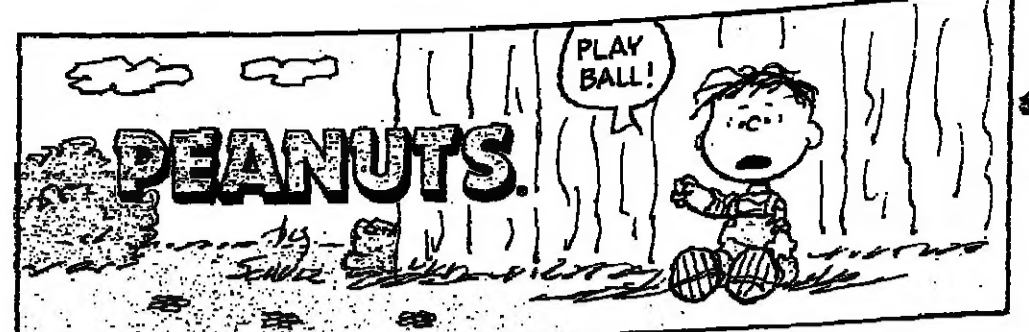
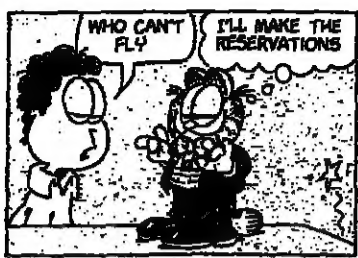
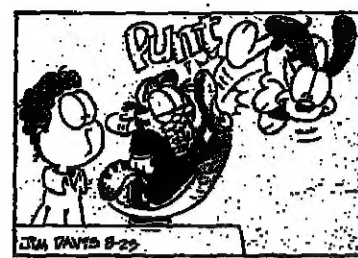
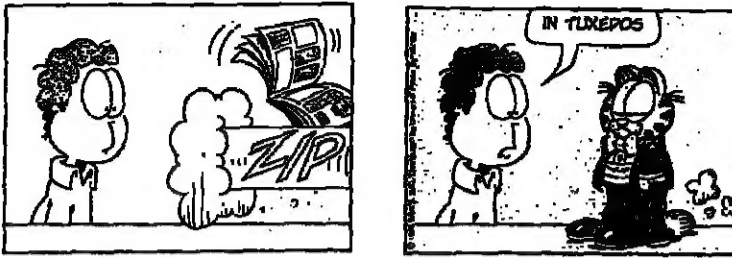
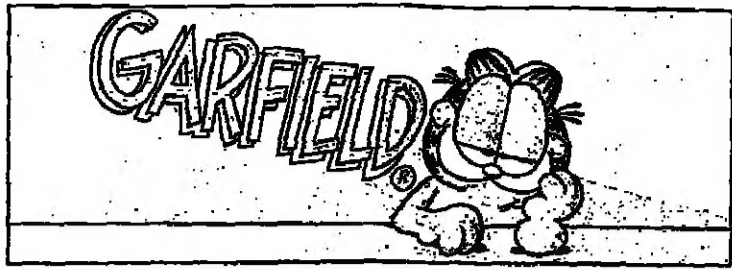
Hearts raced into a 2-0 lead over Aberdeen after just 11 minutes with goals from Steve Fulton and Steven Pressley and once Aberdeen's Gary Smith was sent off in the 65th there was no coming back, the Edinburgh side easily holding out.

Rangers beat Kilmarnock 3-1 with goals by Rod Wallace, Joerg Albers and the penalty spot, and Charles Miller while the day's other match between Motherwell and Dunfermline ended goalless.

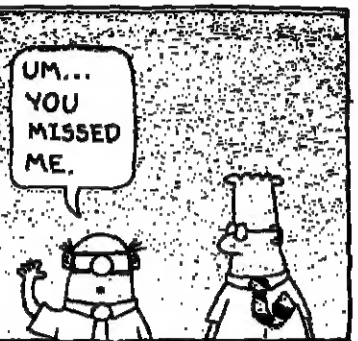
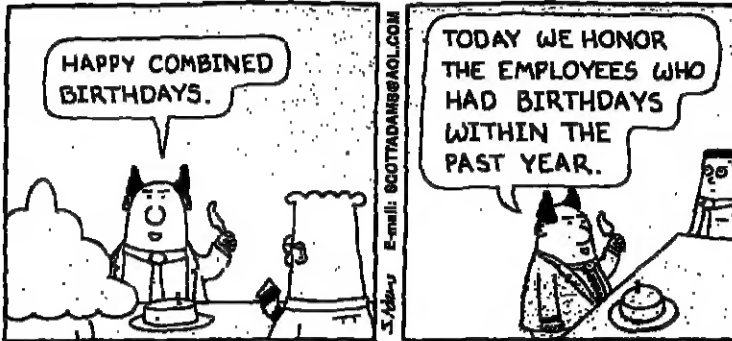
Owen signs 5-year deal  
Liverpool striker Michael Owen has signed a new five year contract, the club announced before their match against Arsenal.

The 18-year-old star of the World Cup said: "I had a clause in my last contract which said that I could renegotiate when I had played for England in a competitive international."



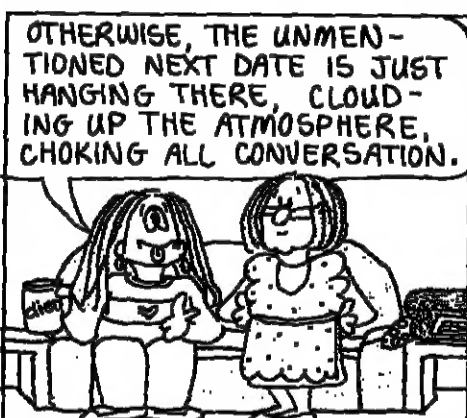


**DILBERT**

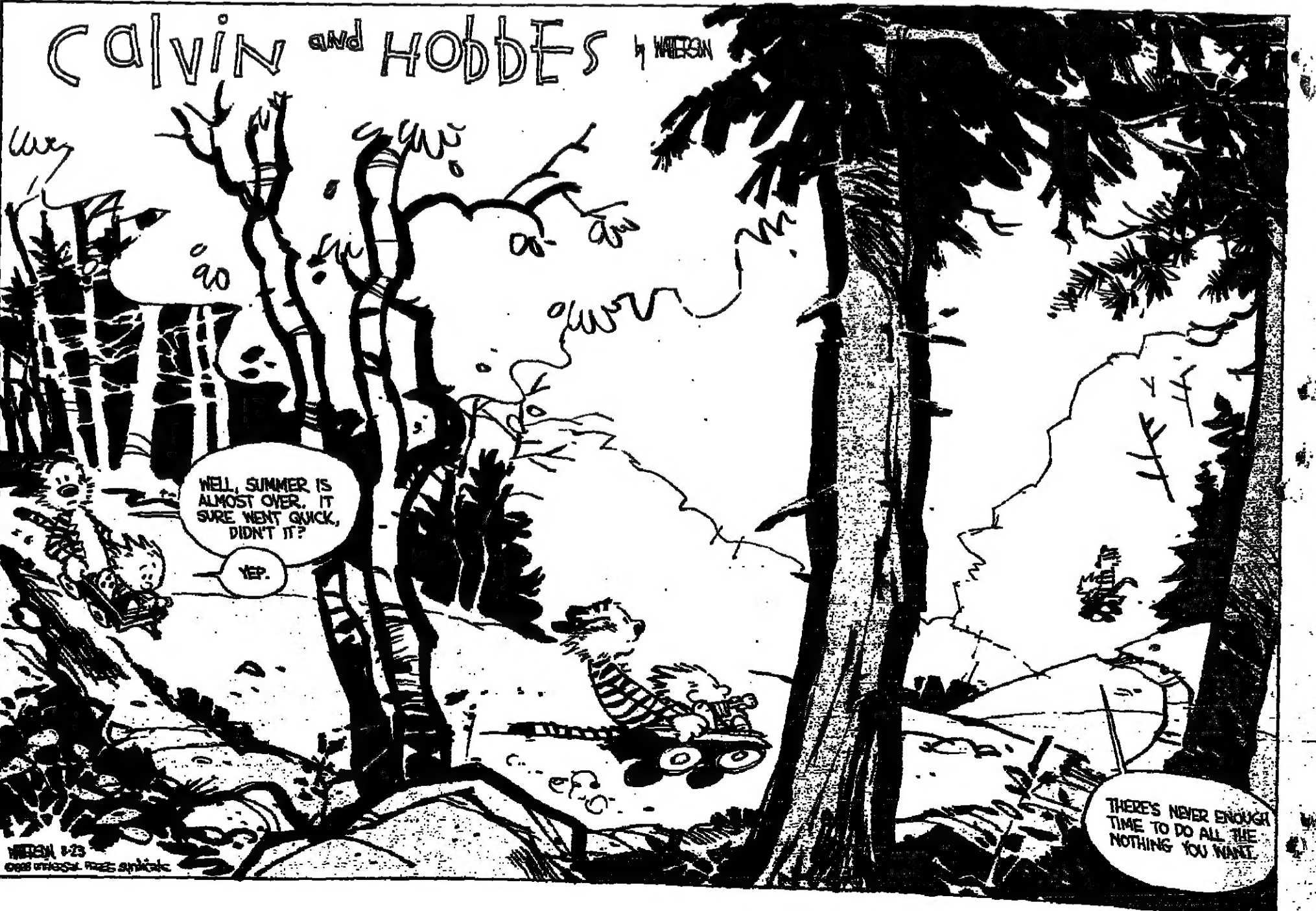
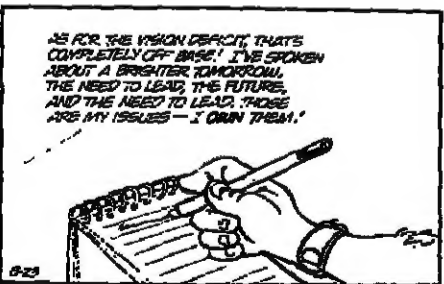
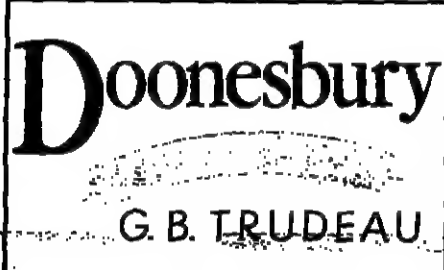


**BY SCOTT ADAMS**

**CATHY**



**BY CATHY GUISEWITE**









## Inside

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**Sports Editors**  
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

## Leics. keep up pace by beating Middlesex

LONDON (Reuters) — Leicestershire completed victory over Middlesex by eight wickets to keep up with the top two in the English county championship yesterday.

They overcame resistance from the Middlesex lower order to bowl them out for 245 and leave themselves a target of only 101 to win.

They trail leaders Surrey by 39 points and second-placed Lancashire by 18 but have a match in hand with four to play.

Yorkshire moved into fifth place, beating champions Glamorgan by 114 runs with a day to spare.

Scot Gavin Hamilton was the outstanding individual performer, taking 10 wickets in the match and scoring a half-century in each innings.

He took five for 43 as Glamorgan were dismissed for 222 in their second innings.

Glamorgan are now resigned to losing their title.

In the other match finishing yesterday, Kent hung on for a draw against Worcestershire at Canterbury with their last-wicket pair together.

Yorkshire announced yesterday that they have signed Australian batsman Greg Blewett as their overseas player for next season.

The 26-year-old replaces fellow South Australian Darren Lehmann, who will be on World Cup duty.

Lehmann recommended the county sign up Blewett and Yorkshire expects he will be available for the whole of the season.

Lehmann remains Yorkshire's first choice in the long term, though, and has signed for the club for a further two years after 1999.

# Charlton go top as Spurs slump

By MITCH PHILLIPS

LONDON (Reuters) — Unfashionable Charlton Athletic sat on top of the English premier league table yesterday after thrashing Southampton 5-0 but Tottenham Hotspur are already in trouble after their second successive defeat.

While Clive Mendonca's hat-trick helped newly promoted Charlton to their great win, Tottenham fans were demonstrating outside the ground after their team went down 3-0 at home to Sheffield Wednesday.

The big match-up of the day, Liverpool against champions Arsenal, produced plenty of chances for both sides but no goals, while Manchester United also drew 0-0, in a disappointing game at West Ham.

Charlton had no such trouble finding the net as John Robertson, in the third minute, and Neil Redfern, a minute into the second half, had the Londoners in control.

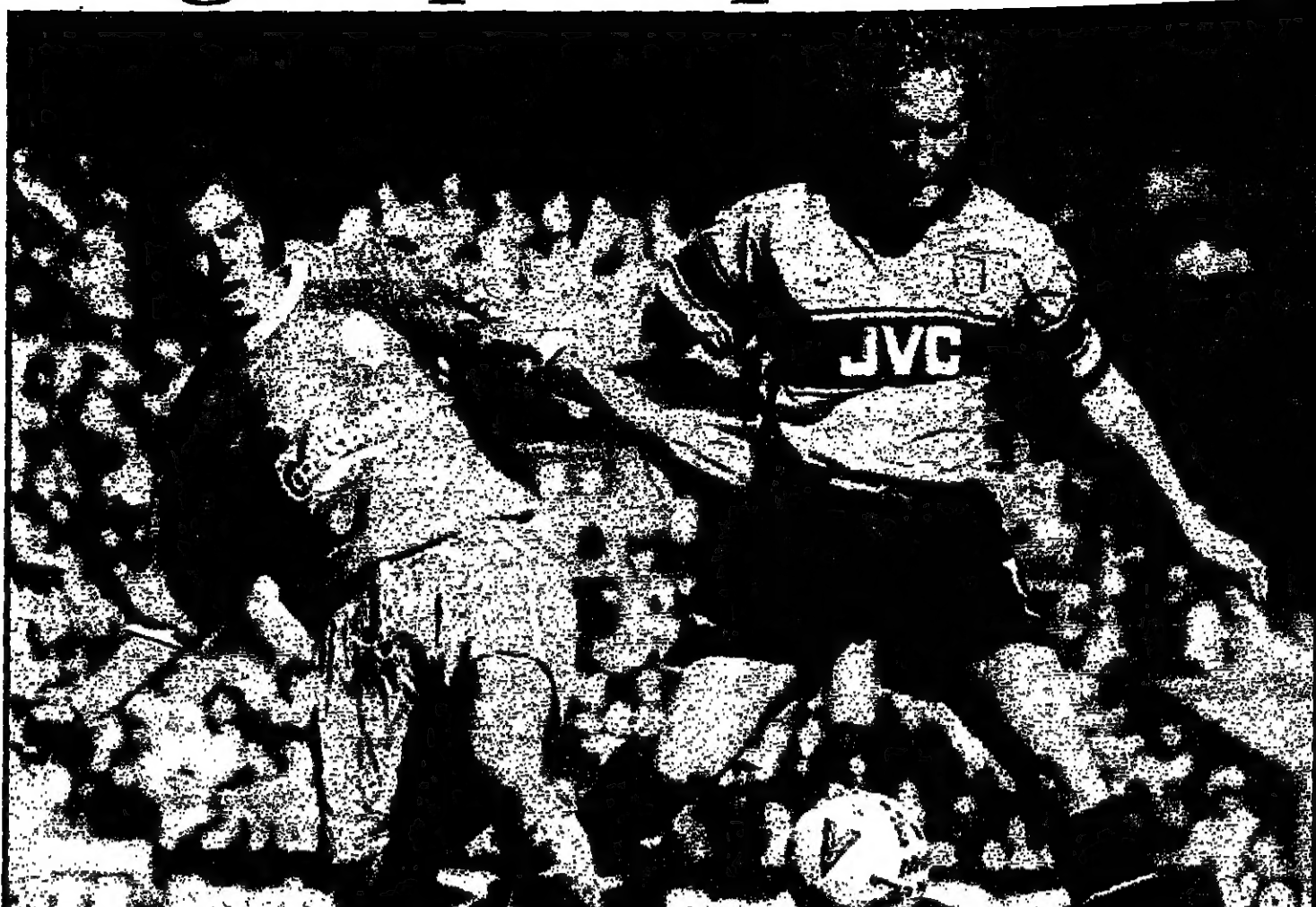
Southampton goalkeeper Paul Jones was then sent off and Mendonca, as usual, took centre stage.

The man who scored a hat-trick in last season's first division play-off final, converted a penalty and then banged in two more.

While the Charlton fans sang "We're going to win the league" Tottenham's troubled supporters gathered outside the ground to shout "sack the board".

First half goals by Peter Atherton and Italian Paolo Di Canio and a late strike by Andy Hinchcliffe gave Wednesday a comfortable win and their first points.

Tottenham, who spent much of



Arsenal's Ray Parlour (right) is tackled by Liverpool's Patrik Berger during their Premier League clash at Anfield yesterday. (Reuters)

last season fighting relegation, hoped for better things this time but manager Christian Gross is already the bookmakers' favorite to be

first premier league coach to get the sack.

"I understand that the fans are disappointed, they love their club and

no-one likes to lose," said Gross. "There's only one way to change it — by hard work." Gross said he believed in the quality of his players

but said he would have them in for extra training today.

See CHARLTON, Page 13

## Wenger praises Arsenal defense for denying Owen

LIVERPOOL (Reuters) — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger heaped praise on his ageing defence yesterday after watching them snuff out the twin threat of Michael Owen and Karlheinz Riedle in the 0-0 draw at Liverpool.

Despite the absence of Tony Adams with food poisoning, he was replaced by veteran Steve Boulton, Arsenal still managed to deny the Reds any clear-cut chances.

After the match Wenger said: "They played against strong strikers in Owen and Riedle...their average age is 33 or more and they still looked very good."

"That is down to experience, intelligence

and motivation. My dream would have been to have them ten years earlier.

"They were certainly the best back four in the world. If you consider not many players can play today at that age it is amazing they are still the top defenders in the premier league."

Wenger admitted the English champions had suffered in attack because the World Cup had drained forwards Dennis Bergkamp and Marc Overmars.

"You can see Dennis is not at his best. He knows that but it is mainly psychical because he didn't start training until August 1."

"He is not as sharp as he used to be but that is only a question of time. At the moment for us it is important to get players fit."

Wenger was happy with the result although he felt Arsenal could have won the game.

"I consider it a point gained because we were playing at Liverpool and it is always difficult to come here. But we lost two points because we

had early chances and a late chance and they are important times to score."

Liverpool appeared a step behind their opponents in the creative department and probably the biggest boost of the day came with the pre-match announcement that Owen had signed a new five-year deal.

Joint manager Roy Evans said: "Michael was on a contract that kept him for a few years, but it was important to reward him for the progress he has made."

Fellow joint manager Gerard Houllier was happy to take a point from the match.

"I felt it was a fair draw, but we do need a bit more composure and confidence on the ball," he said afterwards.

Arsenal midfielder Ray Parlour wasted the

best chance of the match by blazing over the bar from close range in the 34th minute after Brad Friedel had pulled off a stunning save to deny Nicolas Anelka.

Marc Overmars came close to grabbing a winner ten minutes from time, but after outpacing the defence he beat Friedel only to see Jamie Carragher block his shot on the line.

Liverpool rarely troubled David Seaman in the Arsenal goal with Steve McNamara sending several speculative shots spinning wide.

But Seaman did need the help of defender Martin Keown in the 57th minute after he failed to hold a low drive from Vegard Heggem. The ball ran loose to Riedle who saw his effort blocked on the line by the England defender.

## Piazza delivers for Mets

NEW YORK (AP) — This was the kind of performance from Mike Piazza that New York Mets fans — whether they cheer or boo him — know can carry their team to the playoffs.

Piazza hit his major league-leading fourth grand slam, made a sliding catch into a runner trying to seal in leading the Mets over the Diamondbacks 9-4 yesterday.

The Mets, playing their fifth game in less than 48 hours, rallied from an early 4-0 deficit. Bobby Jones (9-7), pitching on three days' rest for the first time this season, helped New York take a one-game lead in the NL wild-card race over Chicago, which lost 8-3 to Houston.

Piazza hit the Mets' first slam of the year, keying a six-run second inning against Andy Benes (11-12). Piazza singled and scored in a two-run fifth.

Piazza has drawn a mixed reaction from the home crowd since the Mets got him from Florida in May, per-

### Friday's Major League roundup, Page 13

haps the result of high expectations for the All-Star catcher.

"I just think the whole situation is getting a little redundant," Piazza said. "You do the job as best you can."

Astros 8, Cubs 3

In Chicago, Randy Johnson didn't get to face Kerry Wood, but he did strike out Sammy Sosa.

Johnson allowed two hits in seven innings for his fourth victory in five starts with Houston and Moises Alou went 4-for-5 with his 37th homer as the Astros beat the Chicago Cubs 8-3.

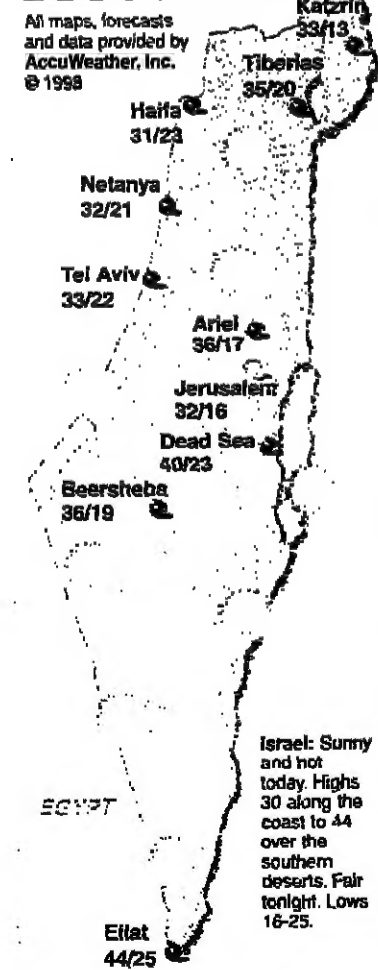
Craig Biggio and Bill Spieris also homered for the Astros, who won their 80th game and moved 8 1/2 games ahead of the Cubs in the NL Central. Chicago entered the game tied with the Mets for the lead in the NL wild-card race.

Johnson (4-1) didn't allow a hit after the second, walked three and struck out nine, including Sosa in the third. The left-hander gave up Glenallen Hill's fourth homer and a single to Scott Servais.

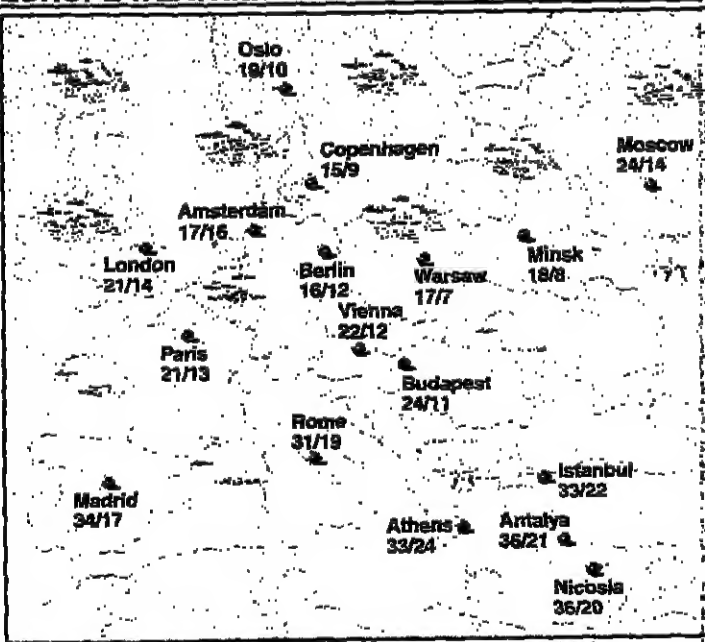
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## THE WEATHER

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### EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



### ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Ariel	36/97	17/62	39/100	18/65	39/102	21/70	39/102	21/70
Beer Sheva	36/97	19/65	36/97	17/62	37/98	21/70	37/98	21/70
Dead Sea	40/104	24/79	41/105	25/77.5	43/109	27/80.5	43/109	28/82
Eilat	44/111	25/75	43/109	26/75.5	44/111	27/80	42/107	26/82
Haifa	31/58	23/73	32/59	24/74	34/53	25/82	34/53	26/82
Jerusalem	32/59	16/51	32/59	16/54	32/51	22/71.5	33/51	22/82
Katzen	33/51	13/52.5	34/51	15/55	35/55	17/70	35/55	18/54
Netanya	32/59	21/74	33/61	22/71.5	35/65	23/75	36/67	24/75
Tel Aviv	33/59	22/71.5	34/61	22/71.5	36/67	23/75	36/67	25/75
Thorn	35/65	20/65	37/68	22/71	41/105	25/75	41/105	28/82
Weather: (H is sunny, partly cloudy, cloudy, all showers, thunderstorms, rain, all snow/frost, all rain, all snow								